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CONTENTS.

LEADING ARTICLES:—	
The Literary World: Its Sayings and Doings	609
ENGLISH LITERATURE:—	
Books of the Season:—	
The Court Album	610
The Traveller. By Oliver Goldsmith	610
Beautiful Poetry	610
The Gardening Book of Annuals. By William Thompson	610
The Adventures of the Caliph Haroun Alraschid	610
The Wonders of Science. By Henry Mayhew	610
The Rhine and its Picturesque Scenery	610
The Birth-day Council. By Mrs. Alaric A. Watts	611
Shahshah bells, chimed by the Fates	611
Sir Thomas; or the Adventures of a Cornish Baronet in North-Western Africa. By Mrs. R. Lee	611
Pignadar; or Three Days' Wanderings in the Land	611
Angelo; or, the Pine Forest of the Alps. By G. E. Jewsbury	611
The Spirit of the Holly. By Mrs. O. F. Owen	611
Twilight Tales. By Mr. E. W. Cox	611
Almanacks and Year-Books	611
History:—	
History of Piedmont. By Antonio Gallenga	611
The History and Antiquities of Roxburghshire and adjoining Counties. By Alexander Jeffreys	612
Notices of Small Books	613
Biography:—	
Memoirs of the Life and Writings of James Montgomery. By John Holland and James Everett	613
The Life and Works of Goethe. By G. H. Lewis	614
Religion:—	
Bohlen's Introduction to the Book of Genesis	616
Bryce's Notes on Virgil	617
Notices of Small Books	617
Education:—	
Have's French Class-book	617
Noad's Manual of Electricity	617
Notices of Small Books	618
Medicine:—	
Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Annual Report of the Registrar-General	619
Kosteven's Manual of the Domestic Practice of Medicine	620
Fiction:—	
Notices of Small Books	620
Poetry and the Drama:—	
Notices of Small Books	620
Miscellaneous:—	
A Statistical View of the Population, the Religions, and Languages of Europe, Transcaucasia, and Turkey in Asia, in 1855. By E. Ravenstein	621
Notices of Small Books	621
Periodicals and Serials	621
FOREIGN LITERATURE, &c:—	
The Critic Abroad	622
Foreign Books recently published	623
France:—	
From our own Correspondent	623
Italy:—	
From our Italian Correspondent	624
SCIENCE, ART, MUSIC, THE DRAMA, &c:—	
The Fortnight	625
Meetings of Scientific Societies	625
Salutary Sentences	626
Archæological Science:—	
Monthly Summary	626
Art and Artists:—	
Notices of Small Books	627
Talk of the Studios	627
Music and Musicians:—	
New Music	627
Musical and Dramatic Chat	627
Literary News	627
Drama and Public Amusements	627
Obituary	628
List of New Books	628
Advertisements	from 601 to 606 and from 629 to 632

ERRATA.

The name of the author of the German Bibliographical-Dictionary mentioned in the leading article of the last number, is "Oettinger," not "Oetlinger," as incorrectly spelt.

In M. Schœlcher's Article on Music, page 594, second column, line 76, an important omission should be supplied. After the words "four or five quintets," insert "in the works of Handel." Without these words, M. Schœlcher is made to apply the term "wonderful genius" to Scarlatti, and also to assert that this composer wrote forty operas—which would be two very great inaccuracies.

THE CRITIC, London Literary Journal.

THE LITERARY WORLD : ITS SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

WHEN the mistletoe bough clusters round the lamps, and the bright holly-berries blush ruddily from the walls; when grocers' windows are eruptive with currants and citrons, and turkeys dread a new St. Bartholomew—what is the use of literature but to be bound up in coats of many colours, to be daintily illustrated by the cunning limner, and, with its leaves resplendent with gold and the rainbow, to be presented respectfully to the lady of our choice? Who will care for even Macaulay's volumes until the grateful odour of Christmas dinners is utterly wafted away? Who will read books of science, of history, or of travel, when only fiction and poesy are asked for? These solid matters can wait awhile; they will not spoil if we shelve them for a month or so; but our tender Christmas annuals, our pretty triflers in velvet and silk attire, our gift-books and our *Keepsakes*, with literature almost as evanescent as the bright colours that deck their bindings—they must be devoured at once, because they will not keep.

There is a beautiful arrangement of nature which seems to render deep-thinking incompatible with good living, and that is no doubt the reason why the publishers have invented these intellectual *soufflés*, as being easy of digestion to the dyspeptic mind. We must confess that, to a certain extent, we are apt to give way to this weakness of the season. We love festivity, we like good living, we are fond of our Christmas; and, great as may be our zeal for the higher regions of literature at other seasons of the year, at this we entertain a decided preference for truffled turkeys and Christmas books; nor do we cut into a volume of poems with half the satisfaction with which we investigate the merits of a *paté de foie gras*. If literature we must have, let it be light literature to-day.

A very merry and seasonable occasion was that meeting at Glasgow the other day, when Lord EGLINTON celebrated the anniversary of the Glasgow Athenæum—quite an Eglintoun tournament against Indolence and Ignorance; and this time the jousts tilted *without* the umbrellas. The address opened with a panegyric upon that "highly accomplished nobleman, who reflects honour on the ancient line from which he is sprung, and whose native-born eloquence and rare talents as a rising statesman are the theme of universal admiration. Of course I need not (said the noble Earl), refer to the DUKE OF ARGYLL." Of course not:—"God bless the Duke of ARGYLL," is now quite a national exclamation. Then came a word for the "inimitable DICKENS," another for "the great historian of Europe," a third for "the vigorous eloquence" of Mr. Sheriff BELL, and a fourth for "the talents" of the LORD ADVOCATE. Everybody was complimented, and naturally every body was pleased, so that cheers were parenthesised through every line of the speech; and we wonder that Lord EGLINTON found time, as he did, to tell the young men of Glasgow that reading was a much more intellectual occupation than drinking and smoking, and that information respecting the generality of mundane matters might be derived from books—which was really all that his very eloquent speech amounted to. It seemed rather hard of the *Times* (considering the pleasant, and, as we said before, the seasonable nature of the whole transaction) to remind Lord EGLINTON that it was all nonsense for fine gentlemen to recommend mechanics to adopt a severity of study which they certainly do not practise themselves, and that in nine out of every ten "well educated" families the library is little better than a room set apart for guns, fishing-tackle, and a few odd books.

The notion that mental occupation is after all

the best remedy for vicious courses is, apparently, not confined to Scotland; we find it travelling as far afield as Constantinople and the Crimea. The troops, being idle, and earning what is to them plenty of money, have been taking to the grog-shop as an occupation, and the labours of the Provost-Marshal have proportionately increased. We now hear of lecture-rooms and reading-rooms provided in Camp. The Principal Chaplain announces that the first lecture is to be on the Crimea—a subject with which we should have supposed the soldiers to be pretty familiar by this time. There is also a demand for "useful collections of books" to be sent to the Crimea and Constantinople. Upon the selection of these the *Times* correspondent at the last-named locality gives some excellent advice:—

A great deal of inappropriate literature has been at different times contributed, the sending of which was but labour lost. Dry reading is not to the soldier's taste, which is rather eccentric in literary matters. Illustrated works are sure to have great vogue, and the pictures recommend the letter-press. The "Illustrated Pilgrim's Progress" is a mighty favourite. Charles Knight's "Illustrated Shakspeare" is well liked; and so is the "Illustrated Milton"—so, at least, I am assured, and that the men read them, by one who has had vast opportunities of observation on this subject. It is difficult to believe that many of the private soldiers who study the two last-named authors understand much of what they read; but, whether they do or not, so long as their time and attention are occupied, the object is answered. Tracts should be avoided, as well as novels; experience shows that their effect is not good. Some in England may doubt this; but they should submit to the experience of the persons from whom I hold the assurance, and who have had such opportunities of observation on that subject as can only here be enjoyed. There are plenty of books of a class exactly suited to the usual taste and average intelligence of soldiers. I think that such works as Dicken's *Household Words*, Chambers's *Journal*, and Chambers's *Miscellany* are favourites.

Intending contributors should particularly observe this prohibition of tracts—than which, as mere tracts, nothing can be more unwelcome to the dull couch of pain and sickness.

In parting with Lord EGLINTON and his speech, we notice that some of the gossips of the press have been discussing the manner in which those admired orations of the PRINCE CONSORT are really composed. Why seek to explode an amiable fiction? Why seek to penetrate into the exact nature of Dr. LYON PLAYFAIR's duties? It is sufficient to know that the reporters for the public press always have a verbatim copy of the speech delivered to them by private hand, and that the public, therefore, has the PRINCE's compositions from the very best authority.

The more sanguine promoters of the educational movement are looking to Lord Mayor SALOMONS to do something towards retrieving the lost credit of the City, and having a public library founded. If he wishes to mark his year of mayoralty by something more indelible than a royal lunch at Guildhall, he will not neglect the hint. Talking of the Guildhall lunch, it was not a bad indication of the state of education in the nineteenth century that the Committee of Management thought it necessary to have all the Latin mottoes used in the decorations copied and translated for the benefit of the visitors, and even of the gentlemen of the press. One poor unfortunate daily made a sad hash of a brace of hexameters; and as it was one of the cheap party, the *Times* (always celebrated for its classics) did not fail to be down upon it with great severity. If this continues, we shall have competitive examinations for journalists; and we are far from denying that something of the kind is greatly wanted.

To revert, however, to the Public Library question, does it not give a opportunity to the utilitarians, when we find that the public does not take sufficient, in some cases not any care of the libraries it already possesses? There is Archbishop TENNISON's Library at Westminster rotting away for want of a bushel or so of coals; and the Library of Lincoln Cathedral is reported to be in an equally bad state. What are the Deans and Chapters of those venerable caputular institutions about? Can they not spare a little fuel to keep the mould-fungus out of those literary treasures? Your City man, when asked for his subscription to buy books for the public, may well button up his pockets, if this is the way in which the public books are treated. If the religious establishments cannot really afford to keep their libraries in a proper state of preservation, why not add them to the

National Collection? The authorities of the British Museum, with all their faults (real and imaginary), have never been accused of letting their books rot upon their shelves.

The mention of the British Museum brings us to a topic of melancholy interest, which has excited no small amount of feeling in that establishment during the past fortnight—we refer to the melancholy death of Mr. LEOPOLD JAMES LARDNER, one of the assistant librarians. This gentleman was valued and respected by all who knew him, as a linguist of very extraordinary acquirements. In a fit of temporary insanity he threw himself from a window, and died shortly afterwards. Various causes are assigned to this shocking catastrophe; some attributing it to physical disease, others to mental irritation.

The death of the Rev. ROBERT MONTGOMERY will also be found in the obituary of the fortnight. As a preacher, Mr. MONTGOMERY was popular among his congregation; though there are some who declare that he mistook eccentricity for eloquence, and that his style was rather calculated to mystify than to convince. As a poet his reputation was limited, although his works were somewhat numerous. In the eyes of the judicious he was never able to rise above the position assigned to him by the *Edinburgh Review* when he first made his appearance. Of course, however, he had his admirers even in that capacity.

It is a curious fact that, whenever anything occurs to bring the Church of Rome into disgrace, Cardinal WISEMAN is heard of somewhere or other, delivering, in the most modest and un-demonstrative way, a lecture upon some high and abstract question, whether of Literature or the Fine Arts. It is not our immediate purpose to criticise the elegant and scholarlike lecture "On the Perception of Natural Beauties by the Ancients and Moderns," with which the Cardinal tickled the ears of the "numerous and highly respectable audience," which thronged the Hanover-square Rooms on last Monday evening, further than to admit that it is a fine piece of composition, not very luminous it is true, but grand in its proportions, and richly coloured as the interior decorations of some glorious old cathedral. It has long been a part of the Roman Catholic tactics to identify the Church with Art—a union which has glorified the former as certainly as it has depressed the latter; but, of all the arts which that Church has excelled in, and of which the Cardinal is an expert master, the greatest is the art of dissimulation. Imagine this fine scholar, this critic endowed with such Catholic taste, telling the world that the uninitiated have no right to form any opinion upon the Austrian Concordat; that it is written in a sort of Latin not known to the vulgar; that the words, as used by the Pope, do not bear their ordinary signification, but must be construed in a strictly ecclesiastical sense! We have heard of Dog-Latin before, and of Law-Latin; now we have Priest-Latin, which must be taken to mean the very reverse of the ordinary interpretation.

An anecdote has been going the rounds of the papers, as illustrative of the unforgiving temper of the British Ambassador at Constantinople. A short time ago, Mr. GRANVILLE MURRAY, a gentleman employed in the diplomatic service, but better known as the "Roving Englishman," published a work called "The History of Diplomacy." In this, as also in some of his former works, he took occasion to make some satirical remarks respecting Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE, which were universally admitted to be more true than complimentary. In reviewing the volume, we at the time expressed a hope that Mr. MURRAY's boldness might not prove detrimental to his interests. The whole affair seemed to have blown over, when, not very long ago, the injudicious *attaché* found himself at Constantinople. The story then proceeds as follows:—"When he was desirous of an interview with Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE, the latter made him wait twelve hours in the antechamber, and then sent him word that he could not see him. Mr. MURRAY returned to his hotel, and was preparing to make amends for his fatigue by a refreshing sleep, when Lord STRATFORD sent word that he must get up immediately, in order to take dispatches to England. 'If he returns in the winter,' added the veteran Ambassador, 'I will send him by land to Bucharest, and I will answer for it that he won't present himself here any more.'" We must admit that this conduct on the part of the Ambassador is not half so surprising as the singular temerity of the *attaché* in putting himself, as it were, within

the very jaws of the lion. Lord DE REDCLIFFE has the reputation of being a very competent ambassador—as ambassadors go; and it was scarcely to be expected that he could tamely submit to have his satirist and contemner openly connected with his embassy. We say this without the slightest prejudice to Mr. MURRAY, who was doubtless justified in every word which he wrote; but when a man sets up for a satirist and a monitor, he should at least have the wit to get beyond the reach of his victim.

Since our last impression, two magazines have been commenced for the new year, in addition to that which we then commented upon. One of these is to be called *The Train*, and its prospectus bears the names of some of the most rising literary gentlemen of the day. Mr. JOHN OXENFORD, who is very well known as the dramatic critic of the *Times*, and better still as a great German and Greek scholar, seems to be the *doyen* of the corps. G. A. SALA, E. L. BLANCHARD, ROBERT BROUGH, and JOHN V. BRIDGEMAN, are also names of some standing before the public. There is something novel about this plan of announcing the names of the contributors, and it may be hailed as something towards tearing aside that veil which oppresses and obscures the anonymous writer. How many a brilliant writer, who throws his jewels into the insatiable sea of periodical literature, would rise into a higher employment of his gifts, but for that system of anonymity! How often are the best productions of an unknown writer attributed to some great and

widely-advertised name, who reaps all the glory—aye, and most of the solid profit of his labours too! We have no hesitation in declaring that there are names now before the public which are mere names *et preterea nihil*—wind-bags puffed out by the breath of other men's nostrils. When all writers sign their own productions, then only will this injustice pass away.

The other magazine announced is an "Oxford and Cambridge Magazine," to be supported by University men. Why not? The *Papers* lately published by both Universities display power far beyond the level of ordinary magazine writing.

We are given to understand that the *Dublin University Magazine* has come, by purchase, into the hands of Messrs. HURST and BLACKETT, upon whom the enterprising spirit of their predecessor, Mr. COLBURN, seems certainly to have descended. We understand also, that considerable anxiety is felt in Ireland lest the new proprietors should transplant the whole publication bodily, and so rob it of all its national character. Of course we cannot presume to dictate to Messrs. HURST and BLACKETT as to how they shall conduct their business; but it may not be out of place to point out to them that if they adopt the course which is so much dreaded by our Irish friends, the publication will certainly lose its nationality, and they will run a risk of having a rival springing up to take the place of the expatriated periodical.

We do not often criticise the style of our contemporaries; but the following gem from the

columns of the *Morning Post* is too precious to be lost. The reporter, describing (in the old JENKINS style) the matrimonial ceremony enacted between the Lady BERTHA HASTINGS and Capt. A. W. CLIFTON, continues thus: "The gallant bridegroom created some amusement, by reading his responses from a portly Prayer-book, which was gracefully declined by the Lady BERTHA on plighting her troth." Supposing that the gallant Captain *did* indulge in this little piece of buffoonery for the amusement of the bystanders, it seems scarcely necessary to praise the gracefulness of the Lady BERTHA because she declined to follow his example.

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ENGLISH LITERATURE.

BOOKS OF THE SEASON.

The Court Album: a Series of Portraits of the Female Aristocracy. Engraved by the best Artists. London: Bogue.

Portraits of pretty women are always popular. Hence the success of "The Book of Beauty," which was welcomed, not merely by the class whose fairest faces it presented to the admiring eye, but by all classes for the beauty's sake.

We are not sure whether *The Court Album* will be so widely popular; for although it contains a great deal of beauty, it is not confined to beauty only: nobility prefers an equal claim. Nevertheless it is interesting to view, and it will be doubly interesting to preserve, for review hereafter, the aspects of those who formed the Court of our Queen in the year of grace 1855. And the artists have done them justice alike with pencil and graver; and the publisher has enshrined them appropriately in a volume of green and gold—itsself an ornament in the drawing-room. Thus decorated are the portraits of the Countess of Malmesbury, intellectual; and the Countess of Durham, very pretty; and Lady Emily Dungarvan, instinct with feeling; and Lady Hamilton, a simple, girl-like beauty; and the Hon. Mrs. Montague, fair, pensive, and thoughtful; and the Hon. Mrs. Vivian, handsome and haughty; and Miss Vyner, who is manifestly satisfied with herself; and Mrs. Hartopp, gentle and amiable; and Lady Mary Yorke, who looks like a lady; and Mrs. Thistlewayte, with a forehead of phrenological promise; and Miss Ashworth, who reminds us of Byron's description of Dodo:—

Dodo, as has been said, was a sweet creature,

&c. &c. Of course we speak only of the portraits: we know nothing of the originals.

The Traveller: a Poem. By OLIVER GOLDSMITH. Illustrated with Etchings on Steel by BIRKET FOSTER. London: Bogue.

HERE is, indeed, a very gem. What a book for a Christmas-box. Almost every line of one of the most delightful poems in our language is illustrated by the congenial pencil of Birket Foster, who has embodied the sentiment of Goldsmith as well as depicted the scenes he describes. What a fine Turneresque view of the Alps is that! what a soft scene on Lake Lemán; how contrasted immediately are the snows of Greenland and the palms of the tropics. Then the peasantry of Italy, seated in luxurious ease under their vines; the ruins of Rome; the Swiss chalet; the French peasants "dancing life away" with a truer philosophy than England has yet found; the canal of Holland; the delicious landscapes of our own country; and the family group at the conclusion. Art has done all this; and the printer has added a typography worthy of the artist, and the binder a binding worthy of enshrining both. Altogether it is a model of ornament.

Beautiful Poetry. Third Series, for the year 1855. CRITIC Office.

THIS work is well known to most of our readers, for this is the third year of its appearance. It is designed to be a collection of the choicest poetry in the English language, gathered from the poets past and present. Besides preserving whatever is worthy of permanent remembrance that appears in the course of the current year, it culls from the poets of past times the passages that every lover of poetry would most desire to possess for repeated enjoyment. A part is issued on the 1st of every month, at the price of 4d. By the end of the year these form a volume, which being very handsomely bound in green and gold (or purple and gold at choice), with gilded leaves, forms a welcome and acceptable school-prize or new-year's gift; for it is of permanent worth, not a book merely to be looked at; a volume to be treasured by young and old, and it is singularly cheap, so that all who have a love for poetry may possess themselves of it.

The Gardening Book of Annals. By WILLIAM THOMPSON. London: Simpkin and Co.

THE love of flowers is extending enormously throughout Europe. The French have caught the infection from us, as we caught it from the Dutch, and flower-shows, bouquets, real flowers in rooms, on staircases, wherever ornament is sought, have become a passion in Paris. At home, the cultivation of them is eagerly pursued by all who boast the possession of a few square yards of ground, and more eagerly by the dwellers in the city than even by the inhabitants of the country. Hence all books that afford practical information for the owner of a garden are sure to command an extensive sale. At a season when we can do little more than dream of flowers, and make preparations for the coming spring, a little book like this, giving a list of all the best annuals, with their heights, colours, seasons for flowering, and best mode of cultivation, will be not the least acceptable present that could be made to young persons having permission to call a corner of the family garden their own, and cultivate it according to their own tastes.

The Adventures of the Caliph Haroun Alraschid. Recounted by the Author of "Mary Powell." London: A. Hall and Co.

WE class this among the Christmas Books because it will amazingly delight the boys and girls whose imaginations have already revelled in the gorgeous visions of "The Arabian Nights," and who hold in the firmest faith the reality of genii, wonderful rings, enchanted lamps, and trees with fruit of diamonds. The author of "Mary Powell" has a great faculty for imitation. With equal ease he (or she) can mock the manner of the writers of the Elizabethan age, or of the Puritan age, or of the Augustan age of Queen Anne, or, as it now appears, of other literatures and languages. In this story she has well caught the spirit as well as the strain of Eastern tales, and

un-critical youth will doubtless believe in this book as firmly as they believe in its progenitor. They will not discover, nor if discovered will they care for the fact, that it is, after all, only an imitation. That which to us would be an objection, to them, perhaps, would be an attraction, and the closer the imitation the more the pleasure. Besides, it is printed in the old book style, in a fine large type, pleasant to read, so that it is a library luxury.

The Wonders of Science; or, Young Humphrey Davy.

By HENRY MAYHEW. London: D. Bogue. 1855. Mr. HENRY MAYHEW describes his work as "the life of a wonderful boy, written for boys;" and therein lies the whole gist of the matter. It is not so much a veracious biography of the great chemist as a scientific fiction founded upon some of the leading facts of his youth. This book, therefore, must be classed rather with "Sandford and Merton," "Peter Parley," and "Philosophy in Sport made Science in Earnest," than among regular biographies. The career of young Davy, "the Cornish boy, who taught himself natural philosophy, and eventually became President of the Royal Society," cannot but afford a hopeful lesson to rouse the sluggish and encourage the ambitious. If we were inclined to be over-critical, we might perhaps take objection to Mr. Mayhew's use of the words "taught himself." Strictly construed, they involve an absurdity; for it is not to be supposed that Davy's or any other intelligence could have discovered without any assistance (whether of books or conversation) the whole scheme of natural science as it was ascertained in his day. Were this indeed the time and place, we believe that it could be satisfactorily proved that Sir Humphrey Davy, however ably he might use the materials he acquired, was almost destitute of the inductive faculty, and displayed much more talent than genius in his discoveries. This, however, is not the point. Mr. Mayhew's book is a very capital book; it presents the laws of light and heat in a very attractive form; and is altogether about as useful a Christmas present as could well be given to a lad of scientific tendencies.

The Rhine and its Picturesque Scenery. Illustrated by BIRKET FOSTER. Described by HENRY MAYHEW. London: Bogue.

THIS is beyond all measure the most magnificent Book of the Season. The pencil of Foster, and the pen of Mayhew, have combined to produce a work which has equal claims upon art and literature. In this place we can notice it only in its character as a work of art. Hereafter we shall give it ampler notice as a literary production, in the department to which it belongs, as a narrative of travels. Suffice it to say now, that Mr. Mayhew has put forth his best powers of description, mingled with much of his dry humour. His short tour of the Rhine will be found to contain a greater quantity of novelty than does any book published on the same subject within our memory.

He is one of those men who could make a charming volume out of a walk from Temple-bar to Charing-cross.

This volume contains twenty engravings. The subjects are Mayence, Rolandseck, Cologne, Bonn, the Seven Mountains, Andernach, Ehrenbreitstein, Stolzenfels, Marksburg, Liebenstein, St. Goar, St. Goarhausen, Rheinstein, the Lurlei, Castle of Thurnberg, Oberwesel, Pfalz, Bacharach, Ehrenfels, and Elfeld. All of them must be familiar to our readers, either from inspection or from representation; but perhaps none has seen them before in such beautiful aspects as they are presented by the skilful hand of the artist. They will serve to recal those glorious scenes, as memory does, softened and silvered, another yet the same. Hence this volume is not a mere annual; it is a book of enduring value; it will be as welcome a century hence as now. It will not lie on the table only for show, and not for use, as is the deserved fate of too many of the showy books got up for the season. The superb binding of purple and gold is a truthful emblem of the worth within. Opened and it is all that its fair outside promised. The typography is perfect; the reading matter, as we shall prove by extracts in another place, worthy of the splendour in which is enshrined; and the engravings true works of art—many of them gems of art, some to be as much admired for their excellence as loved for the sake of the scenes they depict. This is, indeed, a Christmas gift worth having—and keeping.

The Birthday Council; or, How to be Useful. By Mrs ALARIC A. WATTS. Edinburgh: Jack.

"GIVE us something to do," is the exclamation of many a willing circle of young people. In the Christmas Book before us, Mrs. Alaric A. Watts has endeavoured successfully to describe the working of a child's mind, and to trace in its growth an idea, resulting from some such casual observation as that above, of the value of active usefulness. Do something, and let that something be for the good of your fellow-creatures; that is a maxim which cannot be too strenuously impressed upon the young mind. There is no need for idleness in this world, where there is always so much joy to be diffused, so much pain and grief to be relieved or averted. How this wholesome maxim may be carried into practice in every family, to the incalculable extension of the common stock of happiness, and the improvement of heart and head, is shown in the delightful tale which Mrs. Watts has written for this Christmas time.

Sabbath Bells, Chimed by the Poets. Illustrated by BIRKET FOSTER. London: Bell and Dalky.

THERE is much novelty of conception and good taste in the compilation of this chaste Christmas book. From the writings of about thirty poets, the editor has selected twice as many pieces descriptive of the Sabbath, its associations, its customs, and its ordinances. To these Mr. Birket Foster has added some twenty illustrations, which Mr. Evans has engraved on wood and printed in colours. It would be invidious to notice the beauties of each of the woodcuts; but "The Sabbath Bells" strikes us as full of imagination; "The Sunday Evening's Walk" reflects the placidity of a rural ramble at sunset; and "The Sabbath," with its rude village church and church path, its clean-clad rustics and its homely "stiles," is a picture which all who know aught of country life will at once appreciate. This volume is a fit successor to "The Poetry of the Year," which was issued by the same publishers.

Sir Thomas; or the Adventures of a Cornish Baronet in North-Western Africa. By Mrs. R. LEE, Author of "Trees, Plants, and Flowers," &c. London: Grant and Griffith.

Mrs. LEE is skilled in natural history and geography, and she employs her knowledge most usefully by writing books for children, which teach them through the medium of a slight fiction—the best mode of conveying knowledge to children, who cannot readily be brought to relish it in its own shape, at least, presented according to the prevailing fashion of schools. In this gift-book, Mrs. Lee has narrated the imaginary adventures of a Cornish Baronet in North-Western Africa; and these are made the medium for interesting descriptions of the country and of its animal, vegetable, and mineral productions. Thus, while enjoying the adventures, the reader finds that he has been unconsciously acquiring a large quantity of knowledge. Could more be desired for a prize or a present?

Pignadar; or Three Days' Wanderings in the Lands. By ALTHEA. London: Longman and Co.

A SHORT sketch of a visit to a forest district in the South of France, *Pignadar* being the name for a Pine Forest. The manners of the people and the aspects of the scenery are graphically described.

Angelo; or, the Pine Forest of the Alps. By GERALDINE E. JEWSEBURY. London: Grant and Griffith. A PRETTY Swiss tale, prettily and simply told, very much as you would tell it to a child sitting upon

your knee before a winter fire, when he listens to every word, and revels in the new world you are creating in his fancy. Miss Jewsbury does this here, and Mr. Absolon pictures it to the eye with his graceful pencil.

The Talking Bird; or, the Little Girl who knew what was going to happen. By MARY and ELIZABETH KIRBY. London: Grant and Griffith.

AN amusing tale for children, told in a lively, dramatic, and half-humorous vein, always pleasing to the young. It is illustrated by Hablot Browne, in the same spirit of fun.

The Spirit of the Holly. By Mrs. O. F. OWEN, Author of "The Heroines of History." London: Routledge.

A TRUE Christmas tale. The time, the place, the theme, the tone of cheerful piety, are all of Christmas. It is not a child's book properly, for it tells of the trials and triumphs of love wrought by the agency of the spirit of the holly—affections revived, peace restored, in a household where sorrow and suffering had abounded before. Mrs. Owen has written with exquisite pathos, and some graceful etchings illustrate the story.

Twilight Tales. By Mrs. E. W. COX. With illustrations by GEORGE CRUIKSHANK, Miss HOWITT, and Mr. Wm. SCOTT. London: Dean and Co.

THIS little volume is written purposely for children, in language intelligible to the child. It contains eight stories, each founded on one of the nursery rhymes already familiar, and therefore bespeaking the interest of the young reader, and each illustrates some virtue or affection which ought to be cherished. It is peculiarly adapted for the nursery, and it is made still more attractive by three illustrations, one from the humorous pencil of George Cruikshank, another from the graceful hand of Miss Howitt, and a third from Mr. Scott.

ALMANACS AND YEAR BOOKS.

The *British Almanac and Companion* continues its prosperous course, inspite of the multitudinous rivals that have risen around it. This is due, we believe, to the substantial worth of the information it contains. The almanac supplies all that is to be found in the best of its contemporaries, with some features peculiarly its own. The "Companion" supplies a sort of retrospect of the science of the year—a collection of papers by the ablest men in the History of the English Coinage, Agricultural Statistics, Shipwrecks, Reorganisation of the Civil Service, copious Abstracts of Parliamentary Documents, a Chronicle of last session, and an illustrated prospectus of the Public Improvements accomplished during the year.

The *War Almanac*, as its name implies, is devoted to intelligence connected with the war, and naval and military matters. It contains woodcut views, with descriptions, of some of the most famous localities at the seats of war.

The *Rural Almanac and Country House Calendar* is edited by Christopher Idle, Esq., who has supplied a vast quantity of information relating to sports, the garden, the farm, and other things daily required for reference in the country-house. In addition to this useful matter, it gives thirteen large engravings, from original drawings by Ansdell, Harrison Weir, and others, some of them of extraordinary beauty. This almanac will be invaluable to all who live in the country, and its cost is only a shilling.

HISTORY.

History of Piedmont. By ANTONIO GALLENGA. 3 vols. London: Chapman and Hall. 1855.

UNDER the name of Mariotti, the writer of these volumes has already favoured the English public with much valuable information on the state and prospects of modern Italy.* The present work is contributed most opportunely, at a period when the people, the army, and the monarch of Sardinia, in close alliance with England and France, are straining every nerve to bring to a successful issue the most gigantic struggle of the last half-century. An accurate account of the only Italian nation which has succeeded in opening for itself a career of glory and progress, and which will remain for ever distinguished by its chivalrous adoption of the policy, and ardent sympathy with the aspirations, of the West, was much required at the present moment; and M. Gallenga's work may be, therefore, numbered amongst the desiderata of the age.

"Piedmont," he says, "is a state of God's own making." The barrier which Providence reared up for the defence of Italy stands yet unconquered after the enslavement of the whole Peninsula." These geographical advantages are

not exaggerated. From the happy alternation of mountain fastnesses and fertile valleys, the people of north-western Italy enjoyed from the earliest ages the twin blessings of plenty and independence. Bold and hardy as the Highlanders of Scotland in the olden time, they presented an impassable barrier to each successive wave of tyranny and invasion which broke in unresisted fury over the southern portions of the Peninsula. A fairer or more favoured region, indeed, is nowhere to be found. The towns are, for the most part, pleasantly situated at the mountain's foot—and hence the name of the country, *au pied des monts*; on the plains flourish "rich crops of wheat, maize, and rice, which the perennial streams from the Alpine glaciers secure from drought in the longest summer heats;" on the lower hill-sides are "vineyards renowned throughout Lombardy; and the chestnuts and walnut-trees, when permitted to grow, attain all the height and luxuriance of the English oak." Such are the continental dominions of the House of Savoy—now inhabited by 4,500,000 souls, upon a surface of about 20,000 square miles.

The early annals of the people who inhabited the "Highlands" of Italy are replete with heroic traditions. Driven to the mountains for shelter and independence, they long successfully resisted the armaments of Rome. "The Ligurian people," for by this general designation were the early inhabitants of Piedmont known—"stand forth before us (says M. Gallenga) as the very hardiest men in the ancient world." There were proverbs to the effect that "the leanest Ligurian was more than a match for the stoutest Gaul; that their women were men in strength, and that their men had the strength of wild beasts." At last, however, like all the people of Italy, as well as most of the surrounding nations, they fell under the sway of Imperial Rome, and their individual existence was swallowed up in that gigantic power.

It is not our purpose to follow the historian of Piedmont through the dark centuries immediately succeeding the fall of the Roman Empire. When Europe became gradually reconstituted, it is marvellous how the dominions of the House of Savoy preserved an independent existence—how they escaped from the gripe of Germany, and the deadly embrace of France and Spain. Menaced by such powerful states, the decline and downfall of Piedmont appeared inevitable. But, at this critical period, the country fell under the vigorous sway of a sagacious and powerful prince—Emanuel Philibert, who reigned from 1553 to 1580. This was the same Emanuel Philibert whom the all-powerful Philip of Spain, on his marriage with Queen Mary of England, had designated as a fit husband for the Princess Elizabeth. The Piedmontese sovereign was, however, a strictly orthodox though humane Catholic, and his repugnance to an heretical bride saved him from an uncomfortable union with an imperious woman. That he possessed kingly qualities of no common order, and deserves to be ranked amongst the remarkable men of his time, may be inferred from the following admirable sketch of his character, in M. Gallenga's best style of portrait-painting, and which we are therefore tempted to quote without abridgement:—

CHARACTER OF EMANUEL PHILIBERT.

Such was Emanuel Philibert, one of those grand, heroic figures history loves to dwell upon; a man to whom history is all the more willing to do justice, as he disdained to bribe it; and, when Paolo Giuvo offered him the tribute of his vernal praises, which that historian so well knew how to render acceptable to all the other princes his contemporaries, the Duke answered with sublime dignity, "that he valued more the 'small, still voice within' than all the clamour of the world's applause." His was a character almost without a flaw, unless it be his excessive tenderness for the fair sex, and his seven or eight natural children—an "amiable weakness," as it was reckoned in that age, with a leniency which the world readily shows to one of his station even in more recent times. With that figure contemporary records have made us sufficiently familiar: his stature somewhat below the middle size, the broad shoulders, the naturally delicate frame inured to great hardships by early military training, the cold grey eye, the arched brow, the slightly protruding nether lip, the fair curly hair, the short thick beard, not streaked with silver in mature age, the small round head—the "Iron-head"—all is known to us, even to the nether limbs somewhat bent outwardly, "all Ercolina," as the Italians have it, a blemish which he turned to good account, since "no man ever had a more firm or elegant seat on the saddle." We are equally acquainted with his habits: regular, punctual; his strict and sparing distribution of time, the account he kept of it

* "Italy, Past and Present," &c.

in a diary, the five hours he allowed himself for sleep, the few minutes at table, his hard fare, exclusively made up of strong meats and stronger Spanish wines; his way of transacting business, always standing; for ever pacing up and down his garden, always bareheaded, even in the sun, mist, or rain; always with his sword, not hanging by his side after the common fashion, but tight under his arm, ready for immediate use, his sword without which he never left his apartment. Then his manners, grave but courteous, "graceful beyond the common order of mankind;" his quick, laconic answers; his sudden flashes of anger, always under control of a long-trying temper; his hatred of falsehood or pusillanimity; his horror of bloodshed or capital punishment; his strict fulfilment of his engagements; the sacredness of his word, which he pledged "as a gentleman, not as a courtier" (*parola di cavaliere, non di cortigiano*). Then his unwearied energy and activity—activity of body, which could not be exhausted by six hours' play at ball, not by a nine hours' run after the stag in the woods and mountains of Bresse, where he was almost alone in at the death, having distanced the one hundred and fifty men of his retinue, and where, on putting up for the evening at a farm-house, he would snatch the hatchet from the good man who was splitting wood for his supper, and bustle about till the repast was ready; then, hardly allowing himself five minutes at table, he again sallied forth into the field, and beguiled the hours by shooting at a target, or by other manly games, till late in the night, to the great wonder and dismay of the sleek, long-robed Venetian who had scampered after him in the chase, and who, with all the rest of the company, was now hardly able to stand. Again, his activity of mind, which found no sufficient employment in political or military studies, but was equally turned on mathematics, mechanics, the arts, alchemy; that activity which dispensed with the services of the three secretaries he had in his pay, and enabled him to carry on his correspondence almost unaided—partly owing, no doubt, to a certain fastidiousness which rarely satisfied him with any man's doings but his own, and also to that extreme cautiousness which prompted him to take no man into his intimacy, and on account of which he would suffer no valet about him who could read. Such was Emanuel Philibert—the restorer, the second founder of the state of Piedmont.

Charles Emanuel, the son and successor of Emanuel Philibert, inherited the abilities of the father, but, unhappily, not his virtues of moderation and discretion. His haughty and hasty temper involved him in continual wars, which sorely tried the resources of the state that his father had left so prosperous and powerful. His successor, Victor Amadeus, reigned but a short time, and then came Charles Emanuel II., whose cruelty to the Waldenses, or rather the cruelties committed in his name, cannot be overlooked in the most cursory glance at Piedmontese history.

On the sufferings, the constancy, the piety, and the bravery of the Protestant inhabitants of the valleys, it is unnecessary for us to dwell. The bare recital of the savage cruelties perpetrated on these "slaughtered saints" caused a thrill of horror to run through Protestant Europe. Then it was that Milton indited his noble sonnet; then too the Protector Oliver—ever jealous of the honour of Protestant England—addressed his autograph letters to the court of Turin, couched in language of fervid remonstrance, and even instructed the English Ambassador, Sir Samuel Morland, verbally to intercede in behalf of his fellow-believers on the Alps. Cowardly as it was cruel, the Piedmontese court denied the charge of unnecessary severity, and "showed a disposition to come to such terms with their rebel subjects as might appear equitable to their Protestant supporters." The result was the convention, or Patent of Grace, of August 18th, 1655.

But the sufferings of the Waldenses were not yet over. Louis XIV., who had been prevailed on by his mistress to visit his own sins on his Protestant subjects, had sufficient influence over the reigning Sovereign of Piedmont (Victor Amadeus II.) to compel him to issue a decree analogous to the one by which the French King had annulled the Edict of Nantes. Thereupon the craven monarch offered the Waldenses "the alternative between abjuration of their faith and death or expatriation." A short and sharp struggle ensued, and in the end 14,000 of them laid down their arms, and were thrown into dungeons, which less than 3000 quitted to wander forth as exiles. But in banishment these unhappy men found neither comfort nor safety. A yearning for their native valleys and the difficulty of obtaining the means of subsistence in exile at length drove a small but heroic band—scarcely 800 or 900 in all—to force their way home, through Savoy and over the Alps. This miraculous journey they accomplished, after obtaining a splendid victory over a French force 2500 strong;

and, once more settled in their valleys, they joined their Sovereign in a war against France, and nobly earned by their bravery the right to freedom of worship, which could now be no longer refused.

The First French Revolution brought upon Piedmont strange reverses. The tide of democratic fury swept away its ancient monarchy; and on the 9th of December, 1798, the King, yielding to the victorious army of France, resigned the government of his Continental states, and "quitted his capital by torchlight, in a snow-storm, refusing to take with him the crown jewels, or to strip his royal residence of its precious ornaments." Thenceforth, till Napoleon's fall in 1814 Piedmont was French; and, though it is a hard thing to be governed by strangers, no doubt the country benefited largely, both morally and materially, by this foreign occupation. At length the monarch—Victor Emanuel I.—came back from exile, and inaugurated the restoration by a decree which re-enforced all the old laws of 1770, and "sent a chill through his people's hearts. The hands of the state clock were forced back four and twenty years at one sweep!" Of the blind bigotry and superstition which animated the partisans of the Restoration—emphatically so called in Piedmont—an excellent picture is presented by M. Gallenga:—

THE RESTORATION IN PIEDMONT.

The Middle Ages came back with unmitigated horrors, with all the atrocities of a barbarous legislation; with flogging, confiscation, breaking on the wheel and quartering of criminals; with the absurd complication of fifteen courts of law, and a hopeless confusion of powers and attributions, with ecclesiastical tribunals, with secret inquisitorial proceedings. Even the "Viglietti Reali," or *lettres de cachet*, reappeared; and the royal authority was again put forward to interfere with the administration—such as it was—of justice; to invalidate contracts, mortgage deeds, any transaction, in fact, that bore date of that odious period of which the very memory was to be annihilated. The old aristocratic titles were, of course, revived; with them entails, rights of primogeniture, exclusive monopoly of all the greatest civil and military offices—and even an unblushing partiality, and exceptional laws, as it were, in their behalf. Friars—black, white, and grey—again promenaded the streets, harbingers of the return of the age of darkness. The University and the College of Provinces, the masterpiece of the constructive mind of Victor Amadeus II., were closed on the very eve of the King's entrance into his capital; they were, at a later period, delivered over to the tender mercies of the Jesuits. Men of high attainment were set aside as Jacobins, whilst others, such as Valperga di Caluso, Alfieri's venerable friend, resigned their chair in disgust, resenting as an insult the clemency which saved them from the disgrace of their colleagues. Nor was there lack of ludicrous incidents to set forth the sublimity of that all-sweeping, senseless reaction. Public officers were dismissed merely because a French instead of an Italian "r" (with the tail turned outwards, instead of inwards) occurred in their handwriting. Applications to royal bounty or clemency were rejected simply because they were designated as "petitions"—the word should have been "supplications." Hair-powder, pig-tails, all the pre-revolutionary costume, became the rage; coaches, snuff-boxes, house furniture, social etiquette, everything bore the stamp of the most approved *rococo* style. No one who loved his King and his God spoke otherwise than through his nose, the nasal twang being, we know not on what ground, taken as evidence of loyal zeal and religious unction. What more! the predilection for the "old ways" was so strong that the thought of abandoning the splendid carriage-road of Mont Cenis was seriously entertained; and that great monument of Napoleon's genius was only preserved owing to the utter impracticability of the ancient steep path down the valley of the Novalaise.

Such a state of things could not last. Victor Emanuel I. prided himself on being a *real* king, and bitterly derided charters and constitutions. The consequence was he ceased to be a king at all, and abdicated the crown on the 13th of March 1821, in favour of his brother, the Duke of Genoa, who succeeded as Charles Felix, and under whom, for ten dreary years, "Piedmont was the real paradise of monks and Jesuits." The severity with which he punished revolt at his accession procured him the name of "Carlo Feroce;" but the title was hardly deserved; for "gloomy insolence and sullen epicurism were the only prominent features in his character." Even military glory had no charms for him; and he was unnatural enough as an Italian prince to say, that "Austria held half a million bayonets in her pay quite at his service, and he needed no other troops." For the rest, we are told, "He had a taste for the drama and opera, and still more for the ballet and pantomime. Evening

after evening he sat in his box at Genoa or Nice, his favourite sojourns, leering at the dancing girls, munching *grissini*—the famed Piedmontese crisp-baked bread—and napping. A most ignoble type of a king!"

In 1831 Charles Albert, a lineal descendant in the sixth generation of Thomas of Carignano, son of Charles Emanuel I., in spite of royal intrigues and opposition, ascended the throne of Piedmont. His antecedents were, to say the least, rather unsatisfactory. In the former reign, he had dallied with the revolutionary party, and yielded to the Carbonari. Afterwards, in strange opposition to all this, he fought against constitutionalism in Spain, and met, face to face in hostile ranks, the Piedmontese exiles. Rightly or wrongly, profound dissimulation was imputed to him, as the basis of his conduct. But large allowances must be made, when his position at the beginning of his reign is taken into consideration. His choice lay, as he said, "between the dagger of the Carbonari and the chocolate of the Jesuits." Any reform which he initiated at such a time must be moderate, in order to be permanent. The more advanced Italian liberals were not, however, of this mind. They called for a large and national policy—they invoked first principles, denounced Austria, and called on the King to throw himself on God and the People. Such, more particularly, was the language of Mazzini—a name since famous throughout Europe, then known as an enthusiast from Genoa, who organised the association called Young Italy.

More particularly into the Italian politics of this period we cannot enter now. The reforms of Charles Albert are now admitted to have been beneficial as far as they went. His severity towards the partisans of Mazzini, and the terrible means of repression which he employed, were, however, to say the least, little characteristic of a liberal prince. In the eyes of most Italians the last actions of his life, nevertheless, atoned for previous faults and short-comings. The invasion of Lombardy, and the fatal day of Novara—"ominous Novara, the scene of so many Italian disasters"—are matters of recent history. After that terrible defeat, he abdicated his crown in favour of his son, Victor Emanuel II., the now ally of Great Britain, who, amidst the waving of banners and kerchiefs, and the hearty cheers of thousands of Englishmen, passed through our streets the other day.

Our readers will be enabled to judge of the style of M. Gallenga's volumes from the specimens we have given; and, without indorsing all his opinions, we have only further to remark, that he has, on the whole, executed a difficult task very satisfactorily.

The History and Antiquities of Roxburghshire and Adjacent Districts. By ALEXANDER JEFFREY. Jedburgh: Walter Easton.

It is very noticeable that, while nearly every county in England is illustrated by one or more county histories, the Scots, who truly boast of their love of country, have not yet produced one of these monuments of loving, painstaking, and ill-requited labour. We are therefore disposed, *a priori*, to look with favour upon any attempt to supply this deficiency in Scottish historical literature.

The History and Antiquities of Roxburghshire is, however, a different thing from what we are accustomed in England to understand by a county history. Instead of two or three or four portly folios, in which each parish is separately and methodically treated, and in which every old thing and family has its separate niche, Mr. Jeffrey's work consists of two small octavo volumes—only one of which is at present before us—containing a series of essays on the geographical features, the geology, the early inhabitants, and the Roman occupation, and a description of the abbeys and old crosses of the county.

We have not introduced our grand county histories in order to institute a comparison between them and Mr. Jeffrey's work for the sake of disparaging the latter. It was not his object to form a great book of reference; but, as he expressly states in his preface, to convey *within a reasonable compass* the information which he had been enabled to gather during a period of twenty-five years, in relation to the history and antiquities of his county. What he proposed to himself—a portable, and readable, and interesting book—he has well accomplished; but we are desirous of suggesting to him whether his researches have not already supplied him with a great mass of material which

was not available in his present plan, but which, with further research, would enable him to lay the foundation, at least, of a grand county history on the English plan.

At present, however, we have only to discuss the work before us. The chapters devoted to a description of the geography of the county are made very interesting by anecdotes and illustrations, and pleasant gossip, which each locality suggests; and what under other treatment would have been a very dry subject, is made very readable and entertaining. The long chapter on Geology, contributed by another hand, appears, so far as we are competent to give an opinion, carefully and well done. Considerable space is devoted to the history of the county during the Primæval and Roman periods. The author, it is sufficiently manifest, has bestowed diligent study upon the works of the standard writers on such subjects, and has digested their learning and his own local observations into a history of Roxburghshire under the Britons and the Romans, well calculated to interest all the men of Roxburghshire, who have a liberal curiosity as to the early history of their native place. If there be a fault to be found, it is that the author appears to put more confidence in the theories of the antiquaries of a past generation than modern archaeologists in general do. And yet to the modern archaeologist his work will have a considerable value; for this is a district full of ancient remains, tumuli, and embankments, and Roman roads, and hill forts, and foundations of buildings, and the like; and numerous ancient objects of use or ornament have been turned up from its soil. And all these the author carefully describes, and his descriptions are the more valuable from the fact that, as he apprises us in the preface, "besides the knowledge which a long residence in the district necessarily gives, he has specially visited every spot of interest, and examined for himself all the remains of a bygone age within the localities referred to." The latter portion of the volume is occupied with a description of the architectural remains of the Religious Houses of the district—Jedburgh, Dryburgh, Kelso, and Melrose—whose literary histories we are promised in the second volume. We are glad to find also an enumeration and description of the crosses of the district—a beautiful class of antiquities, which as yet have hardly attracted the notice which they deserve.

On the whole we can sincerely recommend the volume to Scotsmen in particular, and to our archaeological readers generally.

Lectures on the French Revolution. By WM. SMYTH. New Edition. 2 vols. Vol. I. Bohn.

MR. SMYTH was professor of modern history at the University of Cambridge, and these lectures were delivered there in the due performance of his office. Perhaps it is because he was addressing an audience that his style is so diffuse; but it would have been well had he freely used the pen for erasure before he gave the lectures to the press. We cannot look upon them as deserving the honour that has been conferred upon them by elevation to a place in Mr. Bohn's admirable "Standard Library." They are not entitled, by any merits of thought or writing, to be esteemed as a portion of the standard literature of England. They are essentially ephemeral, and should have been permitted to pass away into obscurity, having performed the work for which they were designed, and, doubtless, were well adapted. Few lectures, that are good as such, will bear to be read, for the style required for oral teaching is very different from that demanded for teaching by the printed page. The lecturer must sacrifice either his audience or his readers, and it is his duty to prefer the former to the latter. Professor Smyth evidently exercised that choice; and the result is a body of excellent lectures, diluted as lectures should be, but wanting in the vigour and terseness of language and closeness of argument that should distinguish a written essay.

The Great Sieges of History. By WILLIAM ROBSON. London: Routledge.

MR. ROBSON opens his timely and interesting publication by the curious remark, that man shows his superiority over the lower animals chiefly by the skill with which he can conduct the defence or attack of his great gregarious abodes. This is certainly a terrible tumble-down of the high hopes of human progress, and of the results of Christianity and civilisation, so boastfully proclaimed not long ago. But it is not the less true. After all our dreams, we are rudely awakened to the fact that our civilisation is only on the surface; that our religion is but a sham; that man is still as he was centuries ago, his passions unallayed, his animal propensities unsubdued, as fond of blood and plunder as when he first emerged from barbarism into that which was supposed to be a

higher condition of existence. That dream of philosophers has been dissipated, and, as Mr. Robson says, we find ourselves superior to the brutes in this, that we can more skilfully conduct the defence or attack of our great gregarious abodes. "There are numerous animals," he adds, "who, like man, draw up in battle array and dew fields with blood," but none can do this in so scientific a manner! And our religion and our education, and our knowledge, brings us to this end!

The sieges described in the volume before us prove the painful truth that, as man was, so he is, and almost force upon us the conclusion, that so he ever will be. *Nulla vestigia retrorum* is certainly not true with respect to humanity. Man can fall backwards into barbarism far more quickly than he can run out of it.

The philosopher must take men and things as he finds them. His business is with the real, not with the ideal. If his theories have received a rude shock, so much the better: they have been shaken because they were false, and an unwelcome truth is better than a pleasing falsehood. So good will come of it, but not in the direction hoped for.

Mr. Robson has collected very lively narratives of the various great sieges recorded in history. The subject has a special interest now, and the volume cannot but be very popular. It will well deserve its popularity.

The Campaign in the Crimea: an Historical Sketch.

By GEORGE BRACKENBURY. Accompanied by forty double-tinted Plates, from Drawings taken on the spot by WILLIAM SIMPSON. London: Paul and Dominic Colnaghi, and Messrs. Longmans. 1855.

MR. SIMPSON'S Crimean sketches are already too well known to render it necessary for us to say much about them. The exhibition of the originals in the Stationery Court of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, and their publication in one form or another by Messrs. Colnaghi, must have left very few persons ignorant of their merits. Until the arrival of Mr. Fenton's photographs these unquestionably supplied the best pictorial illustration of the Crimean Campaign; and even when put into comparison with those master-pieces of that great artist the Sun, there is a freshness about them which is very life-like and pleasant to the eye.

We have here a selection of forty of Mr. Simpson's best sketches, strung together by a narrative from the pen of Mr. George Brackenbury, late secretary at Kadikoi to the Honorary Agents of the Crimean Army Fund. Mr. Brackenbury has had the modesty to perceive that his portion of the task was of secondary importance, and he has consequently confined himself within the limits afforded by the sketches themselves. In the present plethora of Crimean literature, anything like an attempt at an original story of the campaign would probably be a failure, and Mr. Brackenbury seems to us to have exercised a wise discretion by abstaining from doing more than render Mr. Simpson's sketches intelligible. If his style smack somewhat of the amateur, it is plainly indicative of the gentleman.

The volume is very beautifully printed, and the sketches are exquisitely tinted. As an ornament to the drawing-room table it is unexceptionable.

The Past Campaign: a Sketch of the War in the East from the Departure of Lord Raglan to the Capture of Sevastopol. By N. A. WOODS. London: Longmans. 1855.

THIS book is decidedly a very valuable addition to the already voluminous collection of material connected with the Russian war. As the correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, Mr. Woods's letters were well known as second only to the brilliant productions of the famous correspondent of the *Times*; by many, indeed, it was thought that, if inferior in point of graphic power, they were infinitely superior so far as accuracy and knowledge of military matters were concerned. These volumes are not reprints of Mr. Woods's letters, but contain a careful and well-digested account of his experiences when attached to the army. They will be perused with all the greater interest when it is known that, in addition to Mr. Woods's own matter, they contain the journal of the late Major Butler, the hero of Silistria.

The 2nd vol. of the new edition of *Smyth's Lectures on the History of the French Revolution* has just appeared in "Bohn's Standard Library." This second volume does not change the impression made by the first, that these Lectures had not sufficient claims to the honour of a place in such a grand collection of classical works of permanent value as are contained in Mr. Bohn's Library. They are not distinguished for any single characteristic—they are neither profound nor eloquent, nor do they present new facts, nor even old facts in a new form. It is a compilation and condensation of other histories, such as nowadays might be heard in half the lecture-rooms in England. But when Smyth lectured it was not the fashion for noble lords to mount the platform for the enlightenment of the many.

A fourth edition has just appeared of that very successful work, *Nineveh and Persepolis*, by W. S. W. VAUX, M.A. (A. Hall and Co.), which brings down the history of the discoveries to the present time. The exhaustion of three large editions in as many years attests the popularity which this volume has enjoyed, and justly, for it is compiled with great care, no labour having been spared by Mr. Vaux in collecting and authenticating his facts. It is also profusely illustrated with woodcuts, without which the descriptions would be unintelligible. It should be in every schoolroom and library.

The seventh volume of *Gibbon's Rome*, in "Bohn's British Classics," is entitled to all the commendation bestowed upon the earlier ones. That so vast a work should be faultless no reasonable person would expect; and to pick out an error here and there, as rivals have done, and exhibit them as specimens of the whole, is not honest criticism but jealous spite. Withal, this edition of Gibbon is the best that has appeared, as well as the cheapest.

Smith's Map of Ancient History, a Synoptical Harmony of the History of the World from the Deluge to the Christian Era.—For schools, libraries, and studies, this map will be found most useful. Here at a glance will be found the actual condition of all the great empires of the old world at any particular period within the limit specified. The map is stretched upon cloth and fixed upon a roller, so as to hang up conveniently upon the wall.

The eighteenth volume of the *Illustrated History of England* completes the work, which is rendered peculiarly valuable by the addition of a copious general index. The history is brought down to the accession of Queen Victoria. It is a handsome library book, pleasant to hold and read, and very cheap.

BIOGRAPHY.

Memoirs of the Life and Writings of James Montgomery, &c. By JOHN HOLLAND and JAMES EVERETT. Longman and Co. Vols. III. and IV.

Two insufferably tedious volumes, whose 800 pages might with the greatest advantage have been reduced to, at most, a tenth of that space. The chief incident related is the sale of the *Sheffield Iris* newspaper, in 1825, of which Mr. Montgomery had for many years been at once proprietor, editor, and vendor; the sale is a transaction illustrative of his conscientiousness, inasmuch as he took every precaution to avoid making his successor pay more than its real value for the property, and even "left 400*l.* (the price of the copyright) in the hands of the purchaser, tacitly resolved that, should the paper fail, never to receive the money." We must remark, in passing, that the peculiar construction of the sentence just quoted is due to the editors of the *Memoirs*—one of whom (Mr. James Everett) has, we may mention, introduced a portrait of himself as frontispiece to the third volume; most superfluously, as we venture to conceive, and the more so since there is nothing in the countenance presented to excuse such an intrusion. The other incidents contained in these volumes consist mainly of attendances on public meetings, mostly of a religious character, with long extracts from speeches, newspapers, and other defunct spoken or written matter of twenty and thirty years ago. A gracious letter, about nothing in particular, from "Milton" (not John, but Lord Milton) to Reverend Mr. Everett, is joyfully set before the world, and we are thrilled with the intelligence that Reverend Mr. Everett once on a time composed or began, or published perhaps (who knows?) "a poem entitled 'Edwin,' written in the measure of 'The Wanderer of Switzerland.'" Among the minor biographical facts, elaborately set forth, there are some that fling a gleam of amusement (though not exactly in the way intended by the biographers) over the dreary waste around. Of these we shall select a few for our readers, in which we think they will agree with us, a very high degree of farce is unconsciously attained. Mr. Holland is writing a report of "the bard's" conversation on a certain evening—*O noctes canaque*,—and gives the following thrilling narrative from Mr. Montgomery's lips of a night passed at a friend's house some three years before; we venture to omit a long preamble, and open the scene with Mr. Montgomery in bed:—

"I had not lain long before I heard sounds of scratching, and concluded that even this otherwise comfortable room was not free from rats. The noise continued, and increased; but as I soon discovered that, by whatever cause produced, it came from a shut-up closet near the foot of the bed, I felt but little uneasiness. After a momentary cessation of the sounds, and just as I was musing how I might best get

away without disturbing my friend, the closet door suddenly flew open, and something leaped upon the bed! I started up, and throwing the bed-clothes and myself at once upon the floor, stood a moment to listen. 'Mew!' cried a stray kitten, which had been the innocent cause of my disturbance; and never in my life did I hear a kitten cry 'mew!' with such grateful feelings as at that moment. This was the climax in my harmless experience of nocturnal terrors. Thus my dear friend, I have enabled you, in some degree, to share in the conversation of the bard in a party at which you could not be present.

"I remain, yours sincerely,
"Rev. J. Everett, London." "JOHN HOLLAND."

Let us next observe and meditate on the following (with italics and note of admiration complete):—

PUN BY MR. MONTGOMERY.

Mr. Smith mentioned the cruelty and extortion to which they used to be subject in this country, and told the story in which King John is said to have drawn all the teeth of a Jew, before the latter would give up his gold. *Montgomery*: "Poor fellow, he lost his money in spite of his teeth!"

Here is offered to us—

AN AMUSING SCENE.

In one instance he had been summoned before the magistrate, and paid a penalty as a ratepayer. The scene was an amusing one: a heavy fall of snow had suddenly occurred, and about fifty inhabitants, including the poet, were brought before the bench on the charge of neglecting to have the snow swept from the footpath in front of the premises respectively. "What shall I do with you?" said the magistrate. "You can do nothing but fine us," said *Montgomery*, as spokesman. And, accordingly, they all paid a nominal penalty, and costs.

We could wish the amount of the costs had been stated, and can only trust they were moderate.

We beg leave to quote the following anecdote under the head of

TOBACCO.

On passing a shop window, the poet suddenly stopped. *Montgomery*: "That is beautiful-looking tobacco: I want a little; but it is an article upon which I presume you can exercise no judgment?" *Holland*: "No, Sir; and posterity will, no doubt, be a little surprised should I ever take it by the button and say, 'Mr. Montgomery was a smoker!'" *Montgomery*: "Posterity will care nothing about the matter: at all events, many better and greater men than myself have had recourse to the pipe, though I believe none of them ever used it more moderately than I have done." The list of notable men who have used tobacco would certainly be a long if not a curious one: we at this moment recollect, as belonging to it, the names of Milton, Hobbes, Dr. Parr, Rev. Robert Hall, Burns, Sir Walter Scott, Lord Byron, Campbell, Moore, Bloomfield, &c., &c.

Our biographer's remark is not so entirely original as he may suppose, for a tobaccoist on Holborn-hill has long been circulating the same statement in the form of a handbill, which reminds the passing public that, "wading down through nearly three centuries," we find men of genius to be smokers, and that in particular "poor Byron" (rather familiar!) was accustomed, when utterly disgusted with existence, to call for a cigar as his only solace. It ought to have occurred to Mr. Holland, or Mr. Everett, or both, to notice in connexion with this topic the curious coincidence between the poet's love of the weed and the settlement called by his name in the island of *Tobago*. As one more instance of the tact evinced in this biography take the following:—

After prayer, he mixed a tumbler of brandy and water, and, placing the glass on the hob, lighted his pipe, smoking, sipping, and conversing till bedtime: this may be said to have been invariably his habit at this time; and, indeed, it was so in after years.

Our censure, it will be understood, is not for Mr. *Montgomery's* pipe and glass, but for the bad taste with which these implements are presented to our imagination by the biographer.

In 1824 was published "Prose by a Poet," consisting in great part of matter from the *Iris*, remodelled; it had but little success. *Montgomery* had a very sickly frame and a nervous timid temperament; at this particular time, too, he was more than usually morbid; it is indicative of a mood which many will recognise, that

Having given his packet of manuscript to the guard of the mail, with a strict injunction that he would deliver it to one of the Messrs. Longmans with his own hands, *Montgomery* afterwards walked a mile or two on the London road, to be quite sure the precious consignment had not been dropped at the outset of the journey!

In the same year he undertook to direct the

public attention to the sufferings of the chimney-sweepers, by the well-meant but rather ludicrous device of a volume called the "Chimney-sweepers' Friend and Climbing-boys' Album;" intended to be made up of contributions from the most eminent English *littérateurs* of the time. Some of the replies to his applications are amusingly characteristic; here is Moore's:—

"Sloperton Cottage, Devizes, April 17, 1824.

"DEAR SIR,—I have a thousand apologies to make for the long delay that has taken place in my answer to your letter. I had, immediately upon receiving it, tried my hand at a few stanzas for your purpose, and had even uttered an invocation—

O for a Muse of smoke, that would ascend
The highest chimney of invention!—

but nothing came that I could venture to send you and though I ought to have written to tell you so yet—I did not, and must only trust to your good nature for forgiveness. It would give me great delight to meet you. There are passages of yours that I repeat to myself almost daily; among which are—

The dead are like the stars by day, &c.

If ever good luck should take me through Sheffield, I shall, on the strength of our chimney-sweep correspondence, knock at your door.—Yours very truly,
"THOMAS MOORE."

Wordsworth replied thus:—

"Rydal Mount, Jan. 24, 1824.

"I feel much for their [the climbing boys'] unhappy situation, and should be glad to see the custom of employing such helpless creatures in this way abolished. But at no period of my life have I been able to write verses that do not spring up from an inward impulse of some sort or other; so that they neither seem proposed nor imposed. . . . I should have written sooner; but it was possible that I might have fallen into a track that would have led to something."

Miss Joanna Baillie thought the promulgation of some reasonable plan for sweeping chimneys without boys preferable to poetic effusions on the subject; and Sir Walter Scott sent an account of a manner of constructing flues so as scarcely to catch any soot, "though," says Sir Walter, speaking of *Montgomery's* application, "I think he would rather have had a sonnet." (*Lockhart's Life*).

In 1827 Mr. *Montgomery* wrote a long poem called "Pelican Island," of which we find him speaking, with modest self-confidence, as follows:

He presently became more placid, telling his friend that he might then divulge to him the title of a forthcoming poem, which was so nearly completed that he had written to Longmans on the subject, and was now near the conclusion of the last canto. "You will be surprised," he added, "when I tell you that it is entitled the 'Pelican Island.'" *Holland*: "I am alike surprised at the title, and unable to derive from it any distinct idea of the drift of the poem." *Montgomery*: "Probably so; and other persons will, no doubt, be equally at a loss in that respect: and yet it is an interesting subject, as I have treated it."

Holland: "But how came you to adopt such an extraordinary theme?" *Montgomery*: "It has been floating in my mind several years—at least since 1818; about which period I think it was that I read the account which Captain Flinders gives, in his 'Narrative of a Voyage to Terra Australis,' of one of the numerous gulfs which indent the coast of New Holland, studded with small islands, which appeared to have been the haunts of pelicans during many generations, through which the birds had been hatched, lived, and died, as unseen as they had been unseen by man. Impressed as I was with the subject, I thought it would do very well for the foundation of a missionary speech, and serve to illustrate the manner in which the heathen on the adjacent islands had been born, grown up, and perished as ignorant of God, and of all that is good, as we were ignorant of them, and of their neighbours the pelicans."

While engaged on the composition, he wisely kept it secret from his friends; for, indeed, many a germ has spoiled through being handed about too curiously, instead of planted at once to root itself and sprout in the dark, and perhaps flower in due season.

"It is blank verse! Now, if you do not look blank at that, you are like nobody else. The experiment with me is new and perilous." Aware of that, and knowing that a look, a word, a motion of any friend's face, lip, or leg, might discourage me from proceeding, I determined not to communicate either my subject or the manner of casting it to any human being, till I had executed so much as to be past retreating, whatever doubts, fears, wishes, and hopes might be expressed by any kind-hearted friend, who might pity my madness in going out of my pack-horse line, with the jingling bells, and the whistling tune that they inspired as I hearkened and kept time to them. Till I thought I had arrived at the last canto, therefore, I kept my secret."

In 1828 we find a namesake and rival seeking popularity (which he won, after a fashion) in rather questionable mode.

About this time appeared a widely circulated notice of the publication of "*Montgomery's New Poem, The Omnipresence of the Deity*;" a style of advertisement well calculated—whatever was intended—to lead to the supposition that the only poet of that name then popularly known, and around whose name a halo of piety and genius had long been gathering, was the author of the work thus announced. . . . It was a poor subterfuge to say that the title-page of the book itself did not favour delusion as to its authorship, when, in fact, purchasers had been first misled by the advertisement. Indeed, so influential was the prestige of a name familiar to literature, and so little was a trick suspected, even in official quarters, that, to say nothing of egregious compliments paid to the Sheffield poet, both orally and by letters, he received a London evening paper, in which the "*New Poem*" was formally reviewed as *his*, in spite of the evidence of the title-page, as well as every other page of the book. "Such criticism," said our friend, "is enough to humble the proudest poet, when he finds himself puffed in a quarter where not only his style is unrecognised, but his very identity mistaken!"

In 1830 *Montgomery*, now 60 years old, delivered a course of lectures on "certain branches of the History of English Literature" at the Royal Institution in London. They attracted little notice, and were, doubtless, very quiet, reasonable, and dull.

We suppose that another pair of volumes is to complete these memoirs, which will then consist of a mass of above 2000 printed pages, by and by only saleable at the price of waste paper. James *Montgomery* was a man of talent and character in a degree deserving of commemoration. He enjoyed the esteem and respect not only of his fellow-townsmen, but of a considerable section of his fellow-countrymen. But one volume, instead of half a dozen, would have formed his sufficient and suitable biographic memorial, and have escaped the speedy doom which awaits the more ambitious and ponderous structure.

The Life and Works of Goethe, with Sketches of his Age and Contemporaries, from published and unpublished sources. By G. H. LEWES. 2 vols. London: David Nutt.

[THIRD NOTICE.]

WE shall pass quickly over that part of Mr. Lewes's work, though of much interest and value in its own way, which treats of Goethe as a man of science, merely noting his characteristic dislike to mathematics, and to all abstract methods. He studied the concrete phenomena exclusively, and in this displayed not only the power of his faculties, but at the same time their limitations. The principle that all the parts of a plant are modifications of one typical form, and the same fact with regard to the human skeleton, are both traceable to Goethe; and his researches into optics are said to have elicited, though under the flag of an erroneous theory, many valuable truths. On this subject alone—of his science, and especially his optical pursuits—was Goethe irritable; and he continued so to the end of his life. He knew that the professors of science had been unjust to him when he made real discoveries, and he believed them to be unjust in rejecting his views on colour.

In 1790 Goethe went again, for a short time, to Italy. It had not the same charm for him as before.

And now he was to be torn from his quiet studies to follow the fortunes of an unquiet camp. The King of Prussia and the Duke of Brunswick, at the head of a large army, invaded France, to restore Louis XVI. to his throne, and save Legitimacy from the sacrilegious hands of Sansculottism.

Karl August received the command of a Prussian regiment, and Goethe followed him to the field.

But he followed the Duke—he had no sympathy with the cause. Indeed, he had no strong feeling either way. Legitimacy was no passion with him; still less was Republicanism. Utterly without interest in political matters, profoundly convinced that all salvation could only come through inward culture, and dreading disturbances mainly because they rendered culture impossible, he was emphatically the "Child of Peace," and could at no period of his life be brought to sympathise with great struggles.

In his "Diary" of the campaign—

He is seen interesting himself in men, in science,

* This unworthy trick was repeated in an advertisement which, for the moment, deceived many persons, immediately after the poet's death.—*Vide Athenæum*, June 17, 1854.

in nature—but not at all in the cause of the war. Soldiers fishing attract him to their side, and he is in ecstasies with the optical phenomena observed in the water. . . . The camp too afforded him, with its opportunities for patience, some good opportunities for observing mankind. He notices the injurious influence of war upon the mind: "You are daring and destructive one day, and humane and creative the next; you accustom yourself to phrases adapted to excite and keep alive hope in the midst of most desperate circumstances; by this means a kind of hypocrisy is produced of an unusual character, and is distinguished from the priestly and courtly kind."

At Valmy he rode towards a battery from curiosity to experience the "cannon-fever." After their check at Valmy (where, we may recall to mind, there was a young officer present on the French side, afterwards known as Louis Philippe, King of the French), the Prussians retreated, and Goethe was enabled to return home, which he did with joy.

A pleasant surprise was in store for him on his return to Weimar, in the shape of the house in the *Frauenplan*, which the Duke had ordered to be rebuilt during his absence. This house, considered a palace in those days, was a very munificent gift. It was not so far advanced in the reconstruction, but that he could fashion it according to his taste; he arranged the splendid staircase: too large for the proportions of the house, but a pleasant reminiscence of Italy. The passer-by sees through the windows the busts of the Olympian gods, which stand there as symbols of calmness and completeness. On entering the hall, the eye rests upon two noble casts in niches, or rests on the plan of Rome which decorates the wall, and on Meyer's "Aurora," which colours the ceiling. The group of Ildefonso stands near the door; and on the threshold, welcome speaks in the word "SALVE." On the first floor we enter the Juno room, so called from the colossal bust of Juno which consecrates it; on the walls are the "Loggie" of Raphael. To the left of this stands the Reception-room; in it is the harpsicord which furnished many a musical evening: Hummel played on it, Catalani and Sontag sang to it. Over the doors were Meyer's mythological cartoons; on the walls a copy of Albrandi's Wedding, with sketches of the great masters, and etchings. A large cabinet contained the engravings and gems; a side-closet the bronze statuettes, lamps, and vases. On the other side, connected with the Juno-room, and opposite the Reception-room, were three small rooms. The first contained sketches of Italian masters, and a picture by Angelica Kaufmann. The second and third contained various specimens of earthenware, and an apparatus to illustrate the *Farbenlehre*. A prolongation of the Juno-room backwards was the Bust-room, with the busts of Schiller, Herder, Jacobi, Voss, Sterne, Byron, &c. To this succeeded, a few steps lower, and opening on the trellised staircase leading to the garden, a small room in which he was fond of dining with a small party. The garden was tastefully laid out. The summer-houses contained his natural history collections. But the sanctuary of the house is the study, library, and bedroom. . . . Passing through an ante-chamber, where, in cupboards, stand his mineralogical collections, we enter the study, a low-roofed narrow room, somewhat dark, for it is lighted only through two tiny windows, and furnished with a simplicity quite touching to behold. In the centre stands a plain oval table of unpainted oak. No arm-chair is to be seen, no sofa, nothing which speaks of ease. A plain hard chair has beside it the basket in which he used to place his handkerchief. Against the wall, on the right, is a long peartree table, with bookshelves, on which stand lexicons and manuals. Here hangs a pineushion, venerable in dust, with the visiting cards, and other trifles which death has made sacred. Here also, a medallion of Napoleon, with this circumscription: "Scilicet immenso superest ex nomine multum." On the side-wall, again, a bookcase with some works of poets. On the wall to the left is a long desk of soft wood, at which he was wont to write. A sheet of paper with notes of contemporary history is fastened near the door, and behind this door schematic tables of music and geology. The same door leads into a bedroom: it is a closet with a window. A simple bed, an armchair by its side, and a tiny washing-table, with a small white basin on it and a sponge, is all the furniture. . . . From the other side of the study we enter the library, which should rather be called a lumber-room of books. Rough deal-shelves hold the books, with bits of paper, on which are written "philosophy," "history," "poetry," &c., to mark the classification. It was very interesting to look over this collection, and the English reader will imagine the feelings with which I took down a volume of "Taylor's Historic Survey of German Poetry," sent by Carlyle, and found, in the piece of paper which marked the place, a bit of Carlyle's own handwriting. Such was Goethe's house, during the many years of his occupation.

From 1794 to 1805 is distinguished in Goethe's life as the period of his friendship with Schiller, —two very unlike in most respects, they were one in seeking above all else the highest possible

culture: we have not space to enter into the contrast of their characters and method. Schiller was 35 years old, Goethe 45, when they entered into familiar intercourse. Here let us pause a moment at a remark of Mr. Lewes's (whose commentaries are not always additions to the value of the narrative), in which he contrasts Shakspeare's not having left one line in praise of any contemporary poet, with Goethe's eulogies of Schiller, Voss, Byron, Scott, Béranger, &c., drawing an inference of Goethe's superior magnanimity. The circumstances in the two cases are so different as not rationally to enter the scales against each other; and we must besides take the opportunity of mentioning that Goethe's knowledge of foreign contemporary authors (praise them as he might) was sometimes ludicrously inaccurate. He spoke (unless we suppose the reporters to have misunderstood him) of Byron's burlesque on Southey's "Vision of Judgment" as a serious poem on the "Last Judgment," and declared that "in that incomprehensible poem" Byron's genius had reached its culminating point and *ne plus ultra*! The plain truth, we venture to suspect, is that Goethe, especially in his old age, was given to play the oracle and sometimes favoured his worshippers with sounding verdicts on topics with regard to which he was but imperfectly acquainted. Praise or blame, attended by suspicions of inaccuracy and duplicity, lose somewhat of their importance. Goethe worked in conjunction with Schiller in the periodical "Die Horen;" it proved a failure, and in revenge the two poets united to produce a legion of epigrams, the "Xenien." The publication of "Wilhelm Meister" falls within this period, and the following remarks on the book are worth nothing:—

The historical facts assure us that the first six books—beyond all comparison the best and most important—were written before the journey to Italy: they were written during the active theatrical period when Goethe was manager, poet, and actor. The contents of these books point very clearly to his intention of representing in them the whole nature, aims, and art of the comedian; and in a letter to Merck he expressly states that it is his intention to portray the actor's life. Whether at the same time he meant the actor's life to be symbolical, cannot be positively determined. That may or may not have been a secondary intention. The primary intention is very clear.

Here ends the first plan.

Having written so far, Goethe went to Italy. We have seen the changes which came over his views. After a lapse of ten years he resumes the novel; and having in that period lived through the experience of a false tendency—having seen the vanity of cultivating an imperfect talent—he alters the plan of his novel, makes it symbolical of the erroneous striving of youth towards culture; invents the cumbrous machinery of a mysterious family whose watchful love has guided all his steps, and who have encouraged him in error that they might lead him through error unto truth. . . . Schiller, who knew only the second plan, objected, and with justice, to the disproportionate space allotted to the players.

Let us add that, with all its admirable merits, the tone of this novel in regard to relations between the sexes must always unfit it for general perusal.

Goethe was director of the Court Theatre of Weimar, and he and Schiller did their best to school the public into a taste for high art. They produced their own dramas, superintended rehearsals, nay, the Geheimrath Goethe sat in the centre of the pit, and with eye or even with voice controlled all symptoms of impoliteness or turbulence in the audience! It was in vain. They could not "found a German drama."

In 1796-7 Goethe published his thoroughly delightful poem of "Hermann und Dorothea,"—of which, some of our readers may be glad to learn, a good anonymous translation into English has recently been republished in a cheap form by W. H. Smith and Son, of the Strand, and a better twelvepen'orth it would be difficult to find among books.

The following is under date of the year 1800:—

It may interest the reader to have a glimpse of Goethe's daily routine; the more so, as such a glimpse is not to be had from any published works. He rose at seven, sometimes earlier, after a sound and prolonged sleep; for, like Thorwaldsen, he had a "talent for sleeping" only surpassed by his talent for continuous work. Till eleven he worked without interruption. A cup of chocolate was then brought, and he resumed work till one. At two he dined. This meal was the important meal of the day. His appetite was immense. Even on the days when he com-

plained of not being hungry, he ate much more than most men. Puddings, sweets, and cakes were always welcome. He sat a long while over his wine, chatting gaily to some friend or other (for he never dined alone), or to one of the actors, whom he often had with him, after dinner, to read over their parts, and to take his instructions. He was fond of wine, and drank daily his two or three bottles. Least this statement should convey a false impression, I hasten to recal to the reader's recollection the very different habits of our fathers in respect of drinking. It was no unusual thing to be a "three-bottle man" in those days in England, when the three bottles were of Port or Burgundy; and Goethe, a Rhinelander, accustomed from boyhood to wine, drank a wine which his English contemporaries would have called water. The amount he drank never did more than exhilarate him; never made him unfit for work or for society. Over his wine, then, he sat some hours: no such thing as dessert was seen upon his table in those days: not even the customary coffee after dinner. His mode of living was extremely simple; and even when persons of very modest circumstances burned wax, two poor tallow candles were all that could be seen in his rooms. In the evening he went often to the theatre, and there his customary glass of punch was brought at six o'clock. If not at the theatre, he received friends at home. Between eight and nine a frugal supper was laid, but he never took anything except a little salad or preserves. By ten o'clock he was usually in bed. Many visitors came to him. It was the pleasure and the penalty of his fame, that all persons who came near Weimar made an effort to see him. Sometimes these visitors were of great interest; oftener they were fatiguing bores, or men with pretensions more offensive than dullness. To those he liked, he was inexpressibly charming; to the others he was stately, even to stiffness.

In 1803 Schiller died—a death which Goethe felt deeply.

"My diary," he says, "is a blank at this period; the white pages intimate the blank in my existence. In those days I took no interest in anything."

The first part of "Faust" was published in 1806, which is also the year of the battle of Jena, of the French army in Weimar, and of Goethe's marriage to Christiane Vulpius, by which his son was legitimised. The following passage cannot be spared: it intimates much:—

Since we last caught a glimpse of Christiane Vulpius, some fifteen years have elapsed, in the course of which an unhappy change has taken place. She was then a bright, lively, pleasure-loving girl. Years and self-indulgence have now made havoc with her charms. The evil tendency, which youth and animal spirits kept within excess, has asserted itself with a distinctness which her birth and circumstances may explain, if not excuse, but which can only be contemplated in sadness. Her father, we know, ruined himself by intemperance; her brother impaired fine talents by similar excess; and Christiane, who inherited the fatal disposition, was not saved from it by the checks which refined society imposes, for she was shut out from society by her relation to Goethe. Fond of gaiety, and especially of dancing, she was often seen at the students' balls at Jena; and she accustomed herself to an indulgence in wine, which rapidly destroyed her beauty, and which was sometimes the cause of serious domestic troubles. I would fain have passed over this episode in silence; but it is too generally known to be ignored; and it suggests a tragedy in Goethe's life little suspected by those who saw how calmly he bore himself in public. The mere mention of such a fact at once suggests the conflict of feelings hidden from public gaze; the struggle of indignation with pity, of resolution with weakness. I have discovered but one printed indication of this domestic grief, and that is in a letter from Schiller to Körner, dated 21st Oct. 1800. "On the whole he produces very little now, rich as he still is in invention and execution. His spirit is not sufficiently at ease; his wretched domestic circumstances, which he is too weak to alter, make him so unhappy."

It is with a feeling of relief we turn to that outburst of enthusiasm (so rare in him) with which Goethe, in conversation with Falk, spoke of his Duke under the harsh usage of Napoleon:—

"Misfortune! What is misfortune? This is a misfortune—that a prince should be compelled to endure such things from foreigners. And if it came to the same pass with him as with his ancestor, Duke John; if his ruin were certain and irrevocable, let not that dismay us: we will take our staff in our hands, and accompany our master in adversity, as old Lucas Kranach did; we will never forsake him. The women and children, when they meet us in the villages, will cast down their eyes and weep, and say to one another, 'That is old Goethe, and the former Duke of Weimar, whom the French Emperor drove from his throne, because he was so true to his friends in misfortune; because he visited his uncle on his death-bed; because he would not let his old comrades and brothers in arms starve!' "At this," adds Falk, "the tears rolled in streams down his cheeks."

In 1807 the wild girl Bettina Brentano, aged 14 or so, comes to Weimar, madly in love with the

* See "Goethe's Opinions," &c. J. W. Parker and S. N. London. 1853. (Page 156.)

old Poet of 58! She was of a family of oddities; at the point where the folly of others ceases the folly of the Brentanos begins, runs the proverb in Germany. Her strange book (translated by herself into very strange English), called "Goethe's Correspondence with a Child," has been proved, it is said, to contain more of invention than veracity; and the fact appears to be that Goethe kindly humoured her at first, then found her troublesome, and subsequently, in 1811, took the opportunity of a quarrel between Bettina and his wife to forbid the former his house. Richter had a somewhat similar incident in his life, but of a more serious kind, which it would be interesting to compare with the present.

In 1803 the Congress of Emperors and kings took place at Erfurt, a few miles from Weimar. Goethe was in the train of his Duke, and Napoleon conversed with him. At a private audience, Napoleon, after a fixed look at Goethe, exclaimed, "Vous êtes un homme!"—"a phrase which produced a profound impression on the flattered poet." Napoleon came to Weimar in state, gave the cross of the Legion of Honour to Goethe and Wieland, criticised "Werther," which he said he had read seven times and brought to Egypt with him, and, more than all, invited Goethe to accompany him to Paris, a proposal which the poet was half inclined to accept. Goethe was, at the time, extremely flattered by the Emperor's attentions, but he "preserved complete silence on all that had passed" between them—whether from a more inward feeling of dissatisfaction with himself, or from another cause, who knows?

In 1809 was published the novel of "Elective Affinities," which embodies the experiences of a strange attachment arising between old Goethe and a school-girl at Jena.

In 1813, passing through his native Frankfort, he was received with an ovation at the theatre.

In 1816 "he began to publish an Art Journal, 'Kunst und Alterthum,' which continued till 1828, a curious monument of the old man's studies and activity." In this year his wife died. In the following year the yet hasty Duke, on a quarrel about an acting-dog that Goethe refused to admit on the Weimar boards, publicly and in an offensive manner dismissed his friend from his long-held office of intendant of the theatre. Goethe felt it deeply, and thought of quitting Weimar for ever, to reside at Vienna. The Duke wrote to him in a conciliating tone, and the cloud passed, "but no entreaty could make Goethe resume the direction of the theatre."

On the 7th of November 1825 Goethe, who had a few weeks before prepared a jubilee for the fiftieth anniversary of Karl August's reign, was in turn honoured by a jubilee celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of his arrival at Weimar.

Three years after this the good old Duke reached the end of his earthly career.

Knowing Goethe's love for the Duke, his friends entertained great fears that the shock of this event would be terrible. He was seated at dinner when the news arrived. It was whispered from one to the other. At length it was gently broken to him. They were breathless with suspense. But his face remained quite calm—a calmness which betrayed him. "Ah! this is very sad," he sighed; let us change the subject." He might banish the subject from conversation, he could not banish it from his thoughts. It affected him deeply; all the more so, because he did not give expression to his grief. "Nun ist alles vorbei! Nothing now remains," he said. When Eckermann came in the evening, he found him utterly prostrate.

As usual, Goethe sought to console himself with work; he finished the "Wanderjahre" in its latest form, employed himself on the second part of "Faust," and revised his scientific papers.

In 1831 he received the birthday-gift of a ring from England, accompanied by a letter signed "Fifteen Englishmen," of whom the leader was Thomas Carlyle. He was still a hale and handsome man.

Hufeland, the physician, who had made a special study of the human organisation with reference to its powers of vitality, says, that never did he meet with a man in whom bodily and mental organisation were so perfect as in Goethe.

His death was unexpected by himself or others, yet not sudden. He took cold, sank during a week, and about noon on the 22nd of March 1832 quietly expired in the armchair in his bedroom, his daughter-in-law watching at his side.

This biography is neither profound, nor always scrupulously exact; but, on the whole, it deserves to be regarded as a boon of no common kind to the English reader: how far it is from being in any sense final may be judged from the fact that, even since its publication, a new addition to the

multifarious records of Goethe has come to light in Germany.

We cannot close our notice more pleasantly than with a quotation from Mr. Thackeray's charming letter to the biographer:—

"Five and twenty years ago, at least a score of young English lads used to live at Weimar for study, or sport, or society; all of which were to be had in the friendly little Saxon capital. . . . Of course I remember very well the perturbation of spirit with which, as a lad of nineteen, I received the long-expected intimation that the Herr Geheimrath would see me on such a morning. This notable audience took place in a little ante-chamber of his private apartments, covered all round with antique casts and bas-reliefs. He was habited in a long grey or drab redingot, with a white neckcloth, and a red ribbon in his button-hole. He kept his hands behind his back, just as in Rauch's statuette. His complexion was very bright, clear, and rosy. His eyes extraordinarily dark, piercing, and brilliant. . . . I fancied Goethe must have been still more handsome as an old man than even in the days of his youth. His voice was very rich and sweet. He asked me questions about myself, which I answered as best I could. I recollect I was at first astonished, and then somewhat relieved, when I found he spoke French with not a good accent. *Vidi tantum.* I saw him but three times. Once walking in the garden of his house in the *Frauenplan*; once going to step into his chariot on a sunshiny day, wearing a cap and a cloak with a red collar. He was caressing at the time a beautiful little golden-haired granddaughter, over whose sweet fair face the earth has long since closed too."

RELIGION.

Introduction to the Book of Genesis, with a Commentary on the opening portions. From the German of Dr. PETER VON BOHLEN, late Professor of Oriental Languages and Literature in the University of Königsberg. Edited by JAMES HEYWOOD, Esq., M.P., F.R.S. London: John Chapman. 1855. 2 vols. 8vo. pp. 570.

PETER VON BOHLEN, whose most important work is now introduced by Mr. Heywood to the English public, was born at Wüppel, in the Duchy of Oldenburg, in the year 1796, of poor parents; and after the death of his father, when he was ten years old, his education at the village school was paid for by voluntary contributions. He early wished for the profession of schoolmaster, but his poverty interposed an obstacle, and he was sent in 1810, with other orphan boys, to the military depot of the district. His height being below the standard, he became a domestic servant to Baron Guiton, the General of the French Light Cavalry in that part of Germany, who taught him French, and otherwise encouraged his literary tastes. In a mercantile house at Hamburg he afterwards learned English, and wrote German poetry, translating from Burns and other English authors. He had attained his twentieth year when he began to learn Latin, and shortly afterwards entered the Hamburg Grammar School, pursuing there a regular course of education for three years. He gained the confidence of the citizens, and educated their children, all the while earnestly pursuing studies of a recondite character, such as the Hebrew, Arabic, and Persian languages, until he was sent to Halle by the generous kindness of his friends, at the time when Gesenius was at the height of his fame as one of its professors. By the assistance of the State he afterwards studied at Bonn, Berlin, and Königsberg; becoming familiar with Arabic at the former place, under Freytag, and making progress in Sanscrit, under Schlegel. At Berlin he attended Bopp and other eminent professors; removed to Königsberg, and in 1826 became an extraordinary professor, and in 1828 ordinary professor, of oriental languages and literature. His prosperity culminated in 1836, when he had forty-seven pupils in his class on archaeology, and many students in Hebrew, Arabic, and Sanscrit. At that time he had, as a private pupil, the Earl of Shelburne, now member of Parliament for Calne, who hospitably entertained him at Bowood when visiting in England. His health, always delicate, gave way in 1840, when he died, says Mr. Heywood, in peace and tranquillity.

It will thus be seen that Von Bohlen was comparatively a young man, being only forty-four at the time of his decease. But he was still younger than this intellectually, when the lateness of his education is considered. On this account his works, especially as they relate to theology, can scarcely be looked upon as the deductions of

mature judgment. His "Genesis" appeared in 1835, and to that we must now confine ourselves. His qualifications for the task of commenting on this venerable portion of Holy Writ were principally his linguistic talents, especially his knowledge of Hebrew and the cognate dialects. But it will be seen at once that something far beyond this was necessary to make him an authority in his dogmatic treatment of this great subject. Of his religious training nothing is said by his biographer in the preface to these volumes; but there is abundant evidence in the work itself that his mind, however disciplined by reason, knew none of the restraints of faith. He appears to have applied himself to Genesis in a purely literary manner, unawed by any perception of Divinity, or any belief of the supernatural. In the preface, indeed, the rationalistic tendency does not appear so strongly as in the body of the work; for, while to some the following remarks may appear to be too latitudinarian, they may be taken as generally expressing the views of liberal orthodox scholars.

No book of the Old Testament has suffered more from current prejudices than Genesis; even to the present day it remains well nigh buried beneath their weight. Geographers and historians, geologists and natural philosophers, chronologists and astronomers, jurists and students of physical science, have severally read it, in order to discover the groundwork of their systems in its pages, or to plead the high sanction of its authority in their support; all, without further qualification, have pronounced their decision on its age and character—have judged by its standard the early history of every other nation; and others, by interposing additional difficulties, have increased the darkness of antiquity; and all have spoken with the greater confidence, as such opinions have been uniformly countenanced even by divines, from whom a more accurate examination of the Scriptural records might well have been expected.

The following passage, however, contains more suspicious matter, and introduces the theory on which the learned author proceeds in his treatment of the Scriptural record:

The leading principles on which a new edition of Genesis, suited to the times in which we live, ought, as we conceive, to be constructed are these:—In the first place, the critic must attempt to penetrate the mass of accumulated materials till he reaches the ancient monument itself, and endeavour carefully to free it from the time-worn accretions of prejudice with which every part has been concealed; and it will only be when the monument thus stands before him in its original form, that he can attempt to make up his mind on the structure and integrity of the whole, or finally decide on the comparative value of the various modes of interpretation proposed. How far I have been successful in following out these principles, in the careful examination and selection of existing materials, in the unprejudiced discussion of particular questions, and the determined exclusion of everything not strictly relevant, I must leave the many honoured men to whom this commentary is so deeply indebted to decide.

In this "unprejudiced" spirit Von Bohlen proceeds to strip the Pentateuch of all claim to genuineness and integrity—denying that it was written by Moses, and that it ever had completeness as a literary production, and ascribing it to the priestlike tendencies of a much later age. What the world has so long respected as authentic history, our author everywhere calls "legends," and in an iconoclastic spirit, both undistinguishing and presumptuous, turns the most venerable documents of the Christian faith into a series of "cunningly devised fables," reflecting, indeed, as all mythic productions do, the spirit of the nation which gave them birth, but worthy of no higher confidence as authorities. To us it appears that it would be equally reasonable to ascribe Herodotus to a later epoch, or, indeed, to treat as mythic whatever is covered with the hoariness of antiquity, as to handle the Pentateuch as Von Bohlen does. This treatment is peculiarly offensive, because it proceeds not on evidence, but on the subjective dogmatism of the writer. In his preface he tells us that "the criticism of the work has been derived from Genesis itself and from history; all criticism that cannot stand this test must fall into oblivion." But, in the work itself, this doctrine seems to be ignored, and mere statements take the place of inductions from facts or phenomena. There is something very disagreeable in this destructive boldness in our author when we consider his antecedents, and remember with what advantage a few more years might have been allowed to prepare for the assault upon the cherished belief of whole nations of men. What follows will, we think, bear us out in these observations; and we

entreat our readers to give the whole passage due consideration.

If we may depend, with equal confidence, on the picture of the early state of Palestine transmitted by the Hebrew legends, that country would appear, even then, to have been very densely peopled; in it we find a settled agricultural population, devoting a part of their attention to their olive-grounds and vineyards; here shepherds and their flocks roam through the open pastures; and, distinct from both, are more civilised tribes, who push their trade and commerce from considerable cities, and who had risen (as the myth at least admits) to the purest views of religion and the Deity. The same kind of brotherhood, a common language, which connected them all with each other, bound them with equal strength to the Hebrew strangers who had come to dwell among them. They encountered in their wanderings no obstacle of consequence, but were everywhere received with a ready welcome, until, after an interval which the mythic chronology extends to about 200 years, they finally withdrew into Egypt. Here, during the four following centuries which the popular traditions pass over with a prudent silence, the Hebrew family increased to so powerful a nation that they entered the field as conquerors, and succeeded at length in establishing themselves among the native tribes of Palestine. This whole period, extending over about a thousand years down to the first dawn of history under the popular chiefs called Judges, forms, therefore, the primeval history of the Hebrews, as it is preserved to us in the books of the Pentateuch and of Joshua. The object of the first work (called from its general contents *Torah* or *Law* or *Learning*) is to trace the earliest origin of the people from the darkest antiquity, even from the creation of the world; to present a short summary of their history before the legislation of Moses; to ascribe all the legal enactments of their system to Moses, their favourite leader; to interweave these enactments with their other traditions; and thus, by a strange mistake of the narrator, to refer the very laws and institutions which expressly relate to Canaan to a period anterior even to their settlement in the country. It consists of five books, which by degrees were connected together, in the same way as the series of lyric hymns (the Psalms), originally distributed into as many sections, was eventually formed into one collection. This arrangement, which had been followed before the commencement of the Christian era, gave rise to the name of Pentateuch, or *five-roll* (book), which has been generally adopted since the period of the Greek Fathers of the second and third century. The book of Joshua must be viewed as a supplementary and inseparable appendix to this mythic history, inasmuch as it forms a complete transition to the heroic period, details the conquest of the ancient abode of the patriarchs under the intrepid leader Joshua, and the subjection of the native tribes whose unsparing extirpation had been prescribed as a paramount duty by the Deity himself.

Such is the method pursued in every page of these volumes. A theory, far more difficult to maintain than that which it hopes to supersede, full of unreasonable hypotheses and absurd conclusions, is spoken of with undoubting confidence, as alone worthy the assent of sensible and thinking men. The first volume contains an introduction, divided into twenty-five sections, each of which treats of an important topic, yet rendered useless by the determination of the writer to find the Pentateuch a myth, and Moses a semi-fabulous personage. Two or three of these subjects will give our readers an idea of the scope of the work:—Arguments for and against the supposition that Moses was the author of the Pentateuch—Whether the art of writing can be proved to have existed in the time of Moses—Interpolations in the Pentateuch—Points of similarity in Deuteronomy and Jeremiah—Inquiry whether the New Testament proves that Moses was the author of the Pentateuch, &c. &c. Turning to the last-mentioned section, at p. 234 of the first volume, we find the most low and degrading opinions expressed respecting our Lord and His Apostles, such, indeed, as bring them under much the same category as Moses and the Prophets are placed in by our author. He says that the writers of Christian antiquity adopted without reserve the opinions which prevailed in their own time, and that in the present case they did so, perhaps, without supposing that the Law was actually written by Moses himself. This is bad enough, for it makes out the early Christian writers great fools or disingenuous sophists. But we might leave them chargeable with human prejudices and follies without any violation of fundamental principles; not so our Lord and His Apostles, of whom Von Bohlen says that “in such mere externals Jesus and the Apostles retained the opinions of their nation, and never entered into critical inquiries concerning the history or date of the sacred writings of their forefathers!” True, they did not enter on critical inquiries; but we may hope and believe they made true state-

ments, and did not mislead their followers as to facts so fundamentally important in the Christian system.

The subject of *Genesis* is especially discussed in the two last sections of the Introduction, and it is treated as “a thing of shreds and patches,” and in a style of the greatest irreverence. We are reminded of the offensive scurrilities of the school of Tom Paine in such passages as this:—“The ideas formed of Jehovah himself were very limited, and purely human in their character; he is described as forming men from the dust of the ground, and as making clothes for them; he takes a part in the confusion of tongues, and he exerts his power with reference to the pregnancy of women.” Jehovah, here, is represented as a different being from Elohim; and the occurrence of the two names is made, by others besides our author, to form a division of *Genesis* into the Elohist and Jehovist portions, springing originally from different sources, and afterwards united into a continuous narrative. In the second volume, the work of dismemberment and desecration proceeds *seriatim*, in a commentary on the first eleven chapters of *Genesis*. The account of creation is “a simple and child-like myth,” and there is “an absence of poetic and classical taste in him who derives each step of the narrative through inspiration from the Deity;” the sin of our first parents is merely a fable; and, “whoever desires practically to instruct his fellow-countrymen, must discard the dreams of the dark ages respecting the introduction of hereditary sin as the consequence of it—a doctrine which is alike dishonouring to God and man.” In the account of Cain and Abel we have “simply a popular legend or political myth;” the Flood is “an ancient legend, which may now be regarded as a beautiful illustration of those early Hebrew ideas on retributive punishment and the peopling of the world;” and so of every remarkable event described in the earliest record of Holy Scripture.” If Von Bohlen is right, we have in *Genesis* no history and no religion, since both are made to disappear in a myth, the result of human weakness, and the work of a later age. Enough has been said to show that this publication is of the refined infidel school, displaying a certain mechanical form of learning employed to destroy the faith of long ages, and to reduce to an earthly origin what millions of men of all countries, centuries, and conditions have been foolish enough to regard as divine.

From Mr. Heywood's Preface no intimation can be gathered that these arrogant assumptions of the German scholar have ever been assailed and refuted; but we are left to gather that they are trustworthy, and far superior to the interpretations of orthodoxy. How far it is honest thus to leave readers in the dark, we will leave the public to decide; certainly it is as absurd to put forth a book like this as authority, as it would be to publish a work of an old alchemist as a competent treatise on chemistry. The mythic theory here maintained was carried to its full length by Strauss in his “*Life of Christ*,” and has long since been shivered into a thousand fragments by the lance of truth, aimed at it by many learned champions. But Von Bohlen has been especially and signally refuted, point by point, by Hengstenberg, in his “*Beiträge zur Einleitung ins Alte Testament*,” the portion of which referring to the Pentateuch has been translated and published in England as “*Dissertations on the Genuineness of the Pentateuch*.”* Here the theories and objections of Von Bohlen are discussed, and met with a minuteness which leaves nothing to be desired, and it is shown how superficial learning may really create greater difficulties than it finds. We should have been better pleased if a work on *Genesis* like that before us, composed of confused arguments and successfully assailed positions, had been allowed to slumber on the shelves of Germany, instead of being introduced to English readers, without a word as to its obsolete character; but we are happy in knowing that the antidote is supplied in the “*Dissertations*” of Hengstenberg. But perhaps, after all, Von Bohlen's book will do little harm among the new audience to which it is now introduced, for English good sense will suspect that a theory which throws down so much before it can gain standing room is not worthy of confidence. Our countrymen will receive a judicious criticism of the Bible, and are disposed to

* Translated by Mr. J. E. Ryland, and published by T. and T. Clark. Edinburgh: 1847.

concede the concurrent claims of natural science; but to make *Genesis* a collection of myths and legends, without any value as history, or any authority as revelation, is, we hope, to place this work without the bounds to which forbearance and consideration can be extended. We must confess we are surprised that Mr. Heywood should have given this work the sanction of his name, and not only so, but devoted to it so much attention, as he would appear to have done from certain indications in his preface. He has introduced additional observations on the Flood and other topics, and desires to express his obligations to Professors Owen and F. W. Newman for their kind aid and counsel on various subjects presented to their consideration. Mr. Heywood seems to have been swayed somewhat by the amiable qualities of Von Bohlen as a man, and his reputed erudition, and to have attached more value to them than they deserve in the question of the inspiration and authority of a book of the Bible. We are far from deprecating discussion on sacred subjects, nor are we ignorant of the fact that in Biblical exegesis and in Theology there are many matters improperly taken for granted which ought to be proved. But there is surely a wide difference between a sound and rational system of interpretation, and a rude and reckless overthrow of opinions, which, so far from being the “time-worn accretions of prejudice,” have been carefully examined and cordially believed in by men of the highest mental powers and acquirements. Something far more than the *ipse dixit* of a German Professor is necessary to be adduced before such long accredited views of the books of the Bible can be considered as unworthy of notice.

CLASSICS.

Notes on Virgil, Original and Selected. By ARCHIBALD HAMILTON BRYCE, A.B. London and Glasgow: R. Griffin and Co. 1856.

MR. BRYCE's object has been to collect within the convenient compass of a school manual the most valuable notes which are scattered through the voluminous editions of Heyne, Wagner, Thiel, Forbiger, Gossrau, Ladewig, Henry, and other eminent commentators. To determine the precise value of this attempt would require a most careful, critical, and laborious examination, and for the present we must be content with Mr. Bryce's high classical reputation as evidence in favour of his book. This volume goes no farther than the first six books of the *Æneid*.

Specimens of Greek Anthology. Translated by Major Robert Guthrie Macgregor.—This is a selected series of translations from the epigrammatic stores of the Greek anthology. While candour compels us to confess that we have no great sympathy with the strained and antiquated humour of Simonides, Philodemus, Agathias, Callimachus, and Antiphras, we cannot avoid testifying our admiration of the tasteful and scholarlike manner in which Major Macgregor has performed his task.

Quinti Horatii Flacci, Ex recensione Io. Gasparis Orellii. (Londini et Glasgæ: Griffin and Co. 1856.)—A cheap and useful reprint of Orellii's text, convenient for the use of schools. The index of proper names affixed will be of good service to the student.

EDUCATION.

The Complete French Class-book. By ALFRED HAVET. London: Dulau and Co. 1855.

It seems a pity that M. Havet could not recommend his book to the notice of the public without having a tilt at his rivals who are already in possession of the field. “During my experience as a teacher (says M. Havet) I either used or perused most of the French class-books printed in this country, and I have never met with one, I shall not say suited to my views, but displaying the language in its present condition, and drawing a continual comparison between French and English, in a manner calculated to lead the student to a sound and speedy knowledge of the French tongue.” What, not one? Not even the admirable grammar of M. Delille? Really this is going a little too far. M. Havet's is a very good class-book indeed; but it will not bear comparison with the works of the above-named excellent professor.

SCIENCE.

A Manual of Electricity. By HENRY M. NOAD, Ph. D., F.C.S. 4th edition, entirely rewritten. Part I. “*Electricity and Galvanism*.” London: George Knight and Co. 1855.

At a time when electricity holds such an important position amongst the practical sciences,

every one is anxious to be informed on a subject of such general interest. This work of Dr. Noad's appears to supply the requirement. It is an exposition of electrical science, which, though useful to the experimenter, may yet be comprehended by the general reader. The chapters are divided in such manner as most clearly elucidates the subjects. The first gives an historical sketch of the science. We learn that Thales of Miletus, who lived 600 years before Christ, first observed the property of amber to attract light substances—others among the ancients noticed the power possessed by the torpedo. An Englishman, Dr. Gilbert of Colchester, in the seventeenth century, in a work entitled "Gilbertus de Magnete," enumerated several electrical phenomena. Boyle, Otto Guericke, and Newton, also made observations. It is just a century since Franklin proved by experiment the identity between electricity and the flash of lightning. In the eloquent words of the epitaph on this illustrious man, "He snatched the thunderbolt from Jove, and the sceptre from tyrants." But the last half century has seen such advances in the science as can scarcely be paralleled in any other branch of human investigation. From a mysterious agency in Nature, it has become the handmaid of Art. In the electric telegraph, and in the process of electrotype, we benefit daily by its application.

From an historical consideration of the science, our author passes to the phenomena of static or frictional electricity. After stating the primary laws, such as are deduced from the simple experiments on the excitation of a glass tube or a stick of sealing-wax, we proceed to observations on insulating and conducting bodies, and to the nomenclature, which in this science as well as in many others, is imperfect and objectionable. But we must accept the terms as we find them; it is Dr. Noad's office not to suggest fresh names or new theories, but to give such explanation of the phenomena as our present knowledge of the science will permit. This work has attained to a fourth edition. The advance, however, in this branch of philosophy has been so rapid that the present volume has been entirely rewritten. The diagrams are numerous and most carefully drawn, and the experiments which they illustrate are well selected. The second and third chapters are devoted to the explanation of various Electroscopic Apparatus. The subject of "Inductive Electricity" leads to a striking paragraph, which touches on a singular view of physics—the non-existence of matter; and, however wildly German or Berkleyan may appear such opinions, we must not forget that even Whewell comes very near such an acknowledgment in his "Philosophy of the Inductive Sciences." The following extract will explain:—

But Faraday's theory of induction does not rely on the polarisation of matter in the ordinary acceptation of that term. It contemplates something more refined, dealing rather with the powers or forces which, in the generally received view of the atomic constitution of matter, are associated with the material atom, giving to it its characteristic effects and properties. . . . He is disposed rather to adopt the theory of Bosovich, according to which atoms are mere centres of forces or powers, not particles of matter, in which the powers themselves reside; and if we take such atoms to be indefinitely small, then the particle of matter away from the powers becomes a mere mathematical point, may vanish altogether, and the powers or forces constitute the substance; and these powers or forces may be conceived to pervade all space, and to penetrate everything we call matter. It may be difficult at first to think of the powers of matter independent of a separate something to be called the matter; but it is more difficult, and indeed impossible, to think of or to imagine that matter is independent of the powers; the powers we know and recognise in every phenomenon of the creation, the abstract matter in none.

The brilliant experiments connected with the electrical machine will prove attractive to the general reader; but the physiological effects of electricity are perhaps the most interesting and the most suggestive—we say suggestive, for the mysterious principle of life, and the laws which regulate the animal economy, are as yet but imperfectly known, great even as is our knowledge. Our author remarks that the bodies of animals killed by lightning are found to undergo rapid putrefaction, and it is a remarkable circumstance that after death the blood does not coagulate.

We have ourselves tried an experiment upon pig's blood, which, under electrification, has remained in a state of fluidity for nearly two years; it retains its colour and appears to be perfectly unaltered. We believe the French have

applied electricity with success in cases of aneurism; this would appear a complete contradiction of the experiment on preserving the blood in a liquid state, but in cases of aneurism vitality is a condition which is absent from the other arrangement. Dr. Noad states that Mr. Pine, of Maidstone, tried some experiments on the influence of electricity on vegetation, and he found that some grains of mustard-seed were more advanced in their growth by negative electricity than by positive. These results are contrary to the numerous experiments made by Andrew Crosse on this subject, who has stated that he invariably found that germination was promoted by positive electricity, and retarded, indeed almost destroyed, by negative. And he made this curious observation, that fungi are supported by negative electricity, and never appear in connection with positive electricity. Some hidden law must exist under this curious phenomenon.

Chapter vi. treats of Atmospheric Electricity. Humboldt writes during his travels in the equinoctial regions of the New Continent, "I saw here what I had often observed on the ridges of the Andes during a storm, that the electricity of the atmosphere was first positive, then nil, then negative. These oscillations from positive to negative were frequently repeated." This observation of the German philosopher agrees with Crosse's theory of the concentric and oppositely electrified zones of a thunder cloud. Some useful hints are given on the nature of lightning conductors. The eighth chapter of Dr. Noad's work opens on that important branch of the science, Galvanic or Voltaic Electricity. The names of Volta, Galvani, Pfaff, Zamboni, Wollaston, Becquerel, De la Rive, Schönbein and Faraday, are amongst the many who have so ably devoted themselves to this interesting subject, whereby the laws of decomposition and re-composition are investigated. Dr. Noad explains the different batteries now in use, together with the manipulations necessary. A constant, powerful, and economical battery yet remains to be invented. If it were possible to unite such qualifications, electricity could immediately be applied to many other of the useful arts. Metals could be reduced from their ores by this agency, and, doubtless, a new motive power could be achieved.

We note some interesting details on the effects of the galvanic battery on the muscles and nerves of the human body. There is an account of some experiments tried on the corpse of a murderer, who had just been hung, which convey a frightful idea of the power of science. The muscular action excited in the leg was so great that it nearly kicked down one of the operators. "Rage, horror, despair, and anguish, and ghastly smiles, united their hideous expression in the murderer's face, surpassing far the wildest representation of a Fuseli or a Kean. At this period of the experiment several of the spectators were obliged to leave the room, from terror or sickness—one gentleman fainted." Passing from these somewhat awful manifestations of the power of galvanism, we proceed to the consideration of electricity as a chemical agent, in the modification of form, and in connection with metalliferous lodes, and other terrestrial phenomena. Becquerel and Crosse have succeeded in imitating nearly all the crystallisations found in nature, and have even formed new combinations, by the application of the voltaic battery, to substances, both in solution and in other normal conditions. The wonderful properties of ozone next engage our attention:—This accompaniment of electricity is also a resident in our atmosphere, and is otherwise described as an allotropic condition of oxygen. The delicate powers of electricity in testing the presence of substances has revealed to us a fresh insight into the working of nature's laboratory, and we recognise this wonderful agent in all that surrounds us—in the brilliant scintillations of the Aurora Borealis—"unseen but never ceasing" in the vegetable kingdom—and in the diamond which lies hid in the depths of the earth. Our space will not permit us to go further into the subject of Dr. Noad's work; but of the manner in which he has fulfilled his task we must speak. The facts have been carefully collected, and they are arranged in a lucid manner, a matter of great importance in the understanding of a scientific treatise. The theories of different and differing philosophers are judiciously collated. The style is perspicuous, and numerous drawings illustrate the subjects. It is a book that will be highly useful to the student, compre-

hensive to the general reader, and to the man of science an admirable résumé of the latest discoveries in electricity and galvanism; to the practical man, the details of the applications of the science will not only be a repository of facts and things done, but be the means of suggesting "things that may be done." The volume now published is only the first of two parts. The second part, which Dr. Noad tells us in his preface will be ready early in the ensuing year, is to comprise magnetism, diamagnetism, and electro-dynamics, including a description of the principal electric telegraphs. If the second part equals the first, we can confidently recommend our readers to place the complete work on the shelves of their libraries.

Notes on Spontaneous Combustions. By WYATT PAPWORTH. London: C. and E. Layton. 12mo. This is a small work containing a large number of facts interesting to Fire Offices and to the public in general. The author, on second thoughts, would no doubt have placed upon his title-page the words "Spontaneous Ignition," since ignition in most cases precedes combustion; that is, combustion is mainly the result of ignition. The facts he adduces are not only interesting in themselves, but they direct attention to the best means of preventing fires by architectural arrangements. Some of the facts are enough to alarm timid people. To the list of his anecdotes respecting "ignition by the sun's rays," we would add another, to the prejudice of "bull's-eyes." We read some years ago of an accident that happened to a lady's head-gear. She was seated in the gallery of a country church, which was lighted by a number of the said bulls'-eyes. The sun was high and hot; his beams were concentrated upon her Leghorn by means of one of these lights; fire broke forth, much to the alarm of the lady and the consternation of the congregation. Fires in hay-lofts have often been attributed to these wicked bulls'-eyes.

Elementary Chemistry of the Imponderable Agents and of Inorganic Bodies. By JOHN SCOFFER, M.B. London: Houlston and Stoneman.

This is the volume just completed of "Orr's Circle of the Sciences." The work, as is well known, has passed away from the original proprietors, who ruined themselves while bringing it into existence; but it has been adopted by other parents, and is continued by them with unabated spirit. This essay on Elementary Chemistry is the best work we have in the English language upon the subject. It contains a vast quantity of reading, for it is printed in small type; it is profusely illustrated, and it is marvellously cheap.

The third volume of a translation of *Pliny's Natural History*, with notes and illustrations by Dr. Rostock and Mr. W. T. Riley, has been added to "Bohn's Classical Library." Probably many of our readers have never perused a line of Pliny, familiar as is his name to all of them. In their minds he is probably associated with divers superstitions, which modern experimental science has exploded. But, reading him now, with all the aid that observation for so many more centuries has provided, it is wonderful how truthful he is. We discover in his works many of the prejudices that prevail among the vulgar even at this day; but these are lost in the abundance of reliable information which is lavished upon every page. There is no reader who could not derive profit as well as pleasure from this most ancient natural history; and of this translation of it we may say that it is carefully executed, and that the notes are copious, correcting the errors of the text.

Winter Evening Recreations in Natural Science. No. 1. *The Air.* By Robert L. Jones (Taunton: Woodley.) This appears to be the first of a series of homely but well-written lectures, delivered in the National School-room of Pitminster, Somersetshire. That before us is totally without pretension, but contrives to communicate a great deal of useful knowledge in a very attractive and popular style. We shall be glad to find that this series is continued.

Mr. T. F. Hardwick has published a second edition of his *Manual of Photographic Chemistry* (Churchill), in which he clearly and popularly describes all the processes to be observed in the practice of that attractive art, which he who once begins enjoys so much, that it is apt to absorb more of his thoughts and time than should be given to one object. Whatever the amateur requires he will here find.

A whole volume has been written on the *Flora of the Colosseum* (Groombridge). The author is Dr. Deakin, who has described no less than 420 plants growing spontaneously upon that grand remnant of the old world. Coloured engravings exhibit some of the most curious of them.

The Science of the Moral Nature Considered, by George G. Vincent (Tweedie).—We must confess our inability to follow the author's argument. He wants the faculty of clearly expressing himself, whence we conclude that he cannot think clearly, for confused speaking is always the consequence of confused thinking. He loses himself in words. Philosophical

treatises peculiarly require short sentences and the plainest words, whereas Mr. Vincent's sentences are interminable, and his words of doubtful meaning.

Dr. G. Wilson has published a lecture delivered by him to the University of Edinburgh, on the question *What is Technology?* He denies that *Technology* means *Industrial Art*, as distinguished from *Æsthetics* or *Fine Art*; but he does not supply a better definition. In fact, he desires to give a new meaning to the term, and to show what it ought to be, rather than what it is.

MEDICINE.

LIFE, DEATH, AND REPRODUCTION.

Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Annual Report of the Registrar-General; with Abstracts of the Marriages, Births, and Deaths registered in each of the Divisions, Counties, and Districts for the Years 1850, 1851, 1852 (in continuation of former reports). Published by authority in 1854 and 1855. Two thick 8vo. vols. (with Appendix), pp. 1075.

In one department, at all events, of our civil service, we may claim superiority over every other civilised nation. In it we leave competition far behind. Albeit comparatively of new growth, it has steadily advanced, and so improved at every step, that facts of the utmost importance in the question of life and death, which it is the scope of the said department to seek for, collect, arrange, and afterwards publish to the world, have accumulated through its action to the extent of assuming almost gigantic dimensions. Here, indeed, we may aver that the right men are in their right places. From the head down to the last subordinate officer employed in the department of the Registrar-General (the one to which we are referring), it is manifest that each specific duty must have been performed with precision, zeal, and sagacious discrimination commensurate with the difficulty and complication of the materials in hand, to have led to the production of twelve yearly reports not inferior in value to the three now before us.

It is a curious and flattering feature of modern English bureaucracy, that an office, the creation of the other day, the work of which did, from the very first, call for the exercise of intellectual faculties, acute, discriminating, and mathematical, should, as it were by a single jump, have been formed without the test of any of those preliminary examinations and competitions of candidates so loudly insisted upon at the present day. The Chief, and his principal and philosophical assistant, chalked out and framed the work to be done, and the subordinates jumped at once into harness, and set about to execute it. To those who will only cast their eyes over these thousand pages, and judge of the immense labour, minute calculation, and precision they must have cost and required, it will not be necessary to observe that the *employés* of the Registry-General of Marriages, Births, and Deaths, do not eat the bread of idleness.

MOVEMENT OF THE POPULATION.

The two huge volumes this department has now presented to us, and to which the nature of our journal and small space devoted to this section will only permit us a passing reference, deal with the fate of not fewer than 19,599,428 human creatures, who have played a part in the movement of the population of England during the three years mentioned in the above heading. They inform us that of that number 465,732 individuals of the two sexes had, during that period, linked together their respective fates in life, under various forms of religious or municipal prescription; but that this disposition for union exhibited itself strongest in the quarter of merry Christmas, which showed an excess of 22,000 marriages over the other quarters.

They tell us that, of the population above mentioned, 1,833,299 were fresh beings, who, in the course of the same period, had come to share with us the pains and joys of this world; those of the male sex maintaining, as their wont, the upper hand by 40,405, or at the rate of 1049 boys for every 1000 girls, but succumbing almost as soon as born, or before attaining five years of age, in greater numbers than the females—namely, at the rate of seven instead of six in every hundred living.

Lastly, these same volumes acquaint us with the still more momentous fact that, whilst these myriads of new creatures entered the world, a number nearly equal to two-thirds of them went out of it—the deaths of all ages having amounted in the three years to 1,171,525.

These three classes of simple facts, eliminated by us out of the endless tables and returns in the volumes before us, in which they are accompanied by an extended series of collateral information, general as well as local, physical as well as moral, statistical as well as economical, have naturally suggested to the Registrar-General and his able coadjutor, Dr. Farr, an almost prodigious number of inferences and deductions, all of which will be found set forth with great ability and lucidity in the present reports, and many of which are well calculated to afford food for moral reflection.

Some of the calculations are curious. But we must premise that we do not profess to present them either in this case or in what we have just stated, in the order and language of the reports. We adhere to and use the facts as we find them, and offer them to our readers dressed up in a more popular garb.

WHAT NUMBER MARRY, AND HOW.

Beginning with married life, we find that in 1850, for every 1000 persons living, 15 were married; while in the two following years the proportion of married people was 16 to 1000 living. Every fifty-ninth person in 1850 and 1851, and every fifty-eighth person in 1852, was married. We detect another token of the increase of philogamy in the steady decrease of the unmarried recorded since the foundation of the registry; for whereas the number of persons living to one marriage was in 1838 one hundred and thirty, it was in 1852 one hundred and fifteen. In that year it is stated that 158,782 marriages took place in England; and during the two preceding years 306,950 marriages had been celebrated. It may prove a source of amusement, and perhaps of calculation also to certain parties, to know how these 465,732 matches had been arranged, and here we have it:

Between bachelors and spinsters ...	380,721
Between bachelors and widows ...	19,896
Between widowers and spinsters ...	42,915
Between widowers and widows ...	22,200

465,732

From a table at page vi. of the report for 1851, it would appear that of 1000 bachelors in England, 58 married; and the proportions varied from 32 in Cumberland and 36 in Herefordshire up to 82 in the Surrey portion of London. *Adieu* to mothers with seven daughters, to choose lodgings over the water.

The desire to re-marry was shown more among widowers than widows during the three years: the number of the former who married again having been 65,115; that of the widows 42,096 only. We trow that on this very subject of marriages, we shall have a very different account for the years 1853, 4, and 5, after the Crimean war.

MARRIAGES THE TEST OF EDUCATION.

We stated that these volumes afford food for moral reflection. Take the following as an example:—

"The proportion of the men who, in signing the marriage register, wrote their names in 1851, was 69 in 100, leaving 31 who signed with marks. Of the women, 55 in 100 wrote their names, and 45 signed with marks. The proportions during the last five years have varied little, and the instruction in the commonest elements of knowledge is still deplorably inefficient in the country generally, and more particularly in the counties of Hertford, Bucks, Huntingdon, Bedford, Cambridge, (!) Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Wilts, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Monmouth, and Wales, where no less than 40 in 100 men that married made their marks."

"There is a curious result deducible from the returns of this year (1851). It appears that in 36,186 marriages, both husband and wife signed with marks; in 73,141 marriages both husband and wife wrote their names: and in 44,879 cases either the husband or the wife signed with a mark, while the other party wrote his or her name."

"Does this imply that the ignorant have a tendency to marry the ignorant in a greater or less proportion than the learned (up to the writing point) marry the ignorant; or than those so far learned marry the learned? It is evident from these numbers that in 24 of every 100 families neither the husband nor the wife can write, that in 47 both can write, and that in 29 one of the two can write. Now as we know the number of the men who could write (106,767), and the number (47,439) who could not write; as well as the number of women (84,394) who could write, and the number (69,812) who could not write; it is a purely mathematical question in the doctrine of the probabilities to determine how many of each of these four classes would come together in pairs, if their union were determined simply by lot, and there was no interference of selection between the classes who can write and the classes who cannot write."

"In conformity with this doctrine, the number of marriages in which both parties were unable to write their names should have been 21,477, the actual number was 36,186. The number of marriages in which both could write should have been 58,432, while it was 73,141; and, on the other hand, the number of marriages in which only one could write should have been, by the doctrine of chances, 74,298, and was 44,879. Thus the ignorant evidently intermarry by

choice and the force of circumstances to a much greater extent than would be inferred from their numbers; and this is important, as the result is, that is 24 of every 100 of the families that are now constituted every year by marriage in England, the children are without the advantage of having either the father or the mother able to write."

It is not possible to demonstrate with greater mathematical precision the curious fact, not otherwise suspected, that among our lower classes, although scholarship may cause wonder, it is not attractive; and that the perfectly illiterate prefer herding together, to the perpetuation of ignorance and all its attendant evils. This presents another element in the great question of public education.

BIRTHS IN AND OUT OF WEDLOCK.

We look next to the births. The number of those which took place during the three years under review was mentioned in a preceding paragraph. We there saw that, as is the case in every country of great extent of population, the male exceeded the female births. The sex of the child is supposed to be influenced to a certain extent, by the relative ages of the parents; but the truth of this cannot be tested by the English returns. What these returns unfortunately assert is the increasing number of births out of wedlock, which in the three years in question amounted to 124,788! of whom 63,619 were boys, and 61,169 girls. In the year 1852, which offers the highest number of illegitimate children, namely, 42,482, the proportion to the legitimate varied in several counties from 4.8 per cent. in Monmouthshire to 11.4 per cent. in Norfolk. For all England the rate was 6.8 for every 100 children born; or one in 15 children of England and Wales. Now, as this sad rate, far from diminishing, is seen to increase yearly, suppose we assume it to have been stationary at the last-mentioned rate for some years past, and that the living population contains such elements; we may justly conclude that, unless children born under such circumstances perish in larger numbers, every fifteenth Englishman or Englishwoman living must be a *bastard*! Such are the truths which the Registrar-General has divulged to the world. Kent, and next to it Surrey and Middlesex, have contributed the least; while Norfolk contributed the highest portion (much more than double indeed) of this rate of depravity. It is to be regretted that the age of the unmarried mothers had not been obtained when the illegitimate births were registered.

FORCE OF REPRODUCTION.

The Registrar-General has collected many other interesting particulars respecting births. He states, p. VI., *Fifteenth Report*, that in 1852, "6936 women bore two living children at a birth; in 37 cases three living children at a birth; so that 12,072 of the children were twins, and 111 triplets. In 15 cases the triple births consisted of three boys, in 10 cases of three girls, in 7 cases of two boys and one girl, in 5 cases of two girls and one boy. "It is evident that in these cases the boys preponderate, and that the cases in which the children are of the same sex occur in undue proportion; for, instead of being in the proportion of 15, 10, 7, and 5, the above numbers would have been in the proportion of 3, 3, 1, and 1, had the theoretical probabilities not been interfered with by a natural law tending to create children of the same sex at one birth. Thus, in accordance with the doctrine of chances, the cases of twins in which both children are boys, or both are girls, should be equal in number to the cases in which the children are of different sexes; instead of which, in 3587 instances, the children were of the same sex, and in only 2159 of different sexes."

This is an interesting point of physiology thus opened by the Registrar-General, which, from the peculiar accuracy observed by that department in obtaining facts, would afford mathematical grounds for positive physiological inferences, were the facts sufficiently multiplied. Unfortunately, the Registrar-General has not thought proper to touch on the same subject more than once, viz., in 1852. Probably the machinery necessary for obtaining the return of the facts on that head had not been in action before. Let us hope that so good a beginning will be continued. We consider that no element for calculating the reproductive force of the sexes in England is of more importance than this very question of multiple births, accurately ascertained and accompanied by as many of the attendant circumstances as can be gathered and relied upon,—such as the respective age and state of health of the parents, their condition in life and means of sustenance, with the period of the marriage at which said births took place.

THE STILL-BORN.

There is another element wanting in all these reports of the Registrar-General, without which an accurate calculation of the reproductive force of the sexes cannot be rightly accomplished. We allude to the number of still-born children at their full period; and yet these are emphatically stated to be excluded by the registrar. Why so? The death of the child at or just immediately before the birth is a mere accident, and does not disqualify it from being reckoned among the *bona fide* product of the two

* There is manifestly something wanting in this calculation.

sexes, where it is an object to ascertain with precision the extent which that product can reach. Miscarriages are another matter. In that case we neglect the effort of the two sexes as part of the calculation of their reproductive force, because we may fairly assume, from the fact of miscarriage, that the reproductive force is inefficient in their case, and not, therefore, deserving to be taken into account. But the neglecting to consider the still-born vitiates materially another branch of the Registrar-General's otherwise precious calculations—viz., that of the relative number of sexes. *Quomodo constat*—that the males may not be inferior, instead of superior, in number to the females, if the sexes of the still-born were taken into the account? We do not say that it may be so. Still, suppose that a very large majority of the still-born were to be found of the female sex, and for that reason still-born, as cause and effect, in order that the males may keep the majority of numbers; how greatly must the suppression of the whole number of still-born disturb all the calculation and theories of the generation of sexes! We do not profess to utter this in perfect seriousness; but we nevertheless contend that to omit the still-born in the estimate of the reproductive force, is to render it defective.

DEATHS.

We die at all ages, from the first instant of drawing in the air of heaven which sets the machinery of life agoing,—to the completion of a century and above it. These solemn truths are nowhere more awfully or more copiously illustrated than in the pages on which we have been dwelling with peculiar emphasis. Now, what do these pages divulge as regards the progressive disappearance from among us of our fellow-creatures, whether in town or in the provinces, during the years 1850, 1851, and 1852? Let the reader follow us through a few sentences, and he may learn facts of which the mere obituaries of newspapers give but the very faintest outline.

There died in the three years before mentioned 1,171,526 individuals. Of this grand total the proportion of mortality of the two sexes was 103 males to 100 females. But, inasmuch as the number of females living in England is greater than the number of males, the relative corrected mortality is 100 females for 108 males. During the last fifteen years, however, the range in the relative mortality of the two sexes was 106 girls to 109 boys.

An analogous difference between the sexes is observed, when we compare their relative ages at death; only, here the difference is against the females between 10 and 15 years. The Registrar-General accounts for this, by supposing that the excessive mortality of boys over girls under 5 years of age reduces the superior number of boys born to an equality with the number of girls. Still, supposing the sexes brought down to an equality of numbers, the proportion given by the Registrar-General of 520 B. to 537 G. (p. ix. Rep. 15) would seem to establish a greater mortality of females between 10 and 15 years. We see a reason quite sufficient for this fact in the physiological condition of a girl of 15, independently of the general law of mortality. "After the age of 15, the mortality-rate in England in 1852 increased gradually up to the age of 55, and then more rapidly: thus, at the age of 65—75 the mortality-rate of males was 6:284; of females, 5:708; at the age of 75—85, the mortality-rate of males was 14:161; of females 13:177 per cent. The mortality at this advanced stage of life becomes so great that it surpasses the mortality in infancy." (p. ix. Rep. 15)

"The mortality of 1852 was above the average under 5 years of age and in puberty." The Registrar-General upon this observes, that it was probably referable to the prevalence of epidemical diseases affecting particular ages of life. We doubt this. *Non constat* that there had been any particular epidemic disorders among children under 5 years of age in that particular year, to account for their mortality being above the average. We suspect that the true cause will be found in very different directions, if the registrars were instructed to resort once more to the good practice of giving the deaths of infants properly so called, and of coupling with those deaths the fact of whether they were of legitimate children or not; of new-born babes of parents dwelling in wretched hovels; of the children of starving operatives under a strike—and so forth.

The rate of mortality among children under five years of age is increasing regularly every year. It was 6.695 in 1850; it was 7.298 in 1851; it was 7.600 in 1852 for every 100 males living; whilst the highest rate of mortality of all ages, that is, from birth to a century, for the last ten years, has been only 2.327 to 100 males living; and 2.171 to 100 females living. Think of a difference so preposterous between the deaths of children and those of grown-up people—that the former should be more than three times as numerous as the latter! But we will venture to go farther on very good grounds, and state that at one, two, and three months old the fatality among children will be found to be considerably larger. Indeed, in a work fully noticed in a former number of THE CRITIC,* it is shown in a table of deaths of infants during a period of five years (1838, 39, 40, 41, 42), that, whereas, out of a total of such deaths, amounting to 377,014, those

of infants between nine and twelve months were 55,575, those which occurred under one month were more than double that number, viz., 114,845. And yet no stir is made to investigate the causes of such early destruction of life in England!

Of late years, the reports of the Registrar-General have been completely silent respecting the earliest deaths of infants—those namely which occur under one month, and so on from three months to three months, up to one year. The great importance of such information, as contained in the earlier reports, has been strongly demonstrated; and its subsequent withdrawal from these official documents has proved to be an impediment to the solution of many vital, statistical, physiological, and legal problems. The Registrar-General at present supplies only the deaths under five years of age. The reasons for the change are not apparent. That most able and indefatigable officer is too keenly alive to the progress and improvement of his great department, not to desire to see it perfected in all its branches. The re-adoption of the form of death-registers at page 32 and *passim* of the Second Annual Report, or again of that at page 84 and *passim* of the 4th Report, would greatly contribute to that consummation. In fact, all reports issuing yearly from one great office on a highly-important series of questions of public polity, assuming to give an account of the march and progress of these questions, should be made comparable on all the same points mooted in each successive report. If, for instance, as is the case in the three reports before us, the question of twins and triplets has been considered of importance to be treated in Report 15, why not in the two preceding reports as well? Yet there the subject is not even hinted at. Again, the subject of "Marriages in different seasons," a curious one, is discussed and calculated in the 13th and 14th Reports; but not so in the last. And so of another still more important point of information, viz., "Ages of the mothers of children born legitimate and illegitimate." In the 14th Report we have some interesting information on this subject, which is not to be found either in the 13th or 15th report; and so of many other topics. Were all the reports always comparable, what a prodigiously vast area would be presented to the statistical calculator for his inquiries and deductions!

Deaths take place every day in England, and the deaths on the average were 1066 daily, or 44½ hourly in the three years. The mortality-rate in England is now generally highest in the winter and lowest in the summer quarter; and when this order is reversed, the cause is some epidemic, such as cholera, which is most fatal in the hot season of the year.

Three great and sad lessons we are taught by the present analytical contemplation of the Registrar-General's History of the Population of England in 1850, 1851, 1852.

The first concerns the illiterate condition of a large majority of the so-called working people.

The second has reference to the depravity of the younger branches, males and females, of that class.

The third and last relates to the small account taken of the offspring of that depravity, and in general of infant life altogether—the mortality of infants, from unknown and unexplored causes, at the earliest age, being fearfully large.

A Manual of the Domestic Practice of Medicine. By W. B. KESTEVEN, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, &c. &c. London: Longmans. 1856.

It is dangerous to admit of ignorant tampering with the springs of life, and self-doctoring is always to be condemned; still, it is absurd to be sending for your medical adviser every time you have a head-ache, or cut your finger, or require a little opening medicine. Dr. Kesteven's work applies principally to such cases; and he also gives much valuable advice as to the preliminary treatment of more serious cases before medical assistance can be obtained. How often have drowning, apoplexy, &c., proved fatal for want of a little knowledge at home before the arrival of the doctor. This book is, in fact, an invaluable companion to the medicine-chest of every housewife.

FICTION.

Tolla: a Tale of Modern Rome. By EDMOND ABOUT. ("Constable's Miscellany of Foreign Literature, Vol. X.") Edinburgh: T. Constable and Co. 1855. WHEN this tale originally appeared from the pen of M. About, a charge of plagiarism was raised against him by several of the French literary journals. The grounds for this grave charge appeared to consist in the fact that an Italian novel had been written, which was founded upon the same story. It is but just to M. About to declare that his high literary character is sufficient to maintain a presumption against his guilt in this respect, and that he has not only denied the charge in the most emphatic terms, but (according to Messrs. Constable) has actually commenced actions for defamation against his accusers. The truth appears to be that *Tolla* is founded upon actual circumstances which occurred in Rome about eighteen years

ago and caused a considerable amount of sensation there. At the time, an Italian version of the story was published, but was suppressed by the influence of the families whose honour was implicated in the matter—so successfully, that Messrs. Constable have found it impossible to obtain a single copy of it. M. About has taken the story as he found it, and as it is still related in Italian society, and has made it the basis of his novel. Surely he was entitled to do this!

For the story itself, we can say nothing in its favour but that it is well written. Manuel Coromila, the hero, makes a most common place Romeo, and Tolla Feraldi, the heroine, a very bread-and-butterish Juliet. Romeo's friends, in this case, forbid the bans, and poor Juliet dies love-sick and heartbroken, in a convent. Romeo, who is quite as great a fop as his Veronese prototype, without the merit of his constancy, is a poor weak fellow enough, who suffers himself to be estranged from Juliet by a French actress at a fourth-rate theatre. Could anything be more unromantic?

The White Chief: a Legend of Northern Mexico. By Captain MAYNE REID. London: David Bogue. 1855.

A TALE of Spanish America, full of rare feats and desperate encounters, of fierce passions, cruel deeds, and stern reprisals. No one knows better how to handle these melodramatic materials than Captain Mayne Reid, whose fictions, drawn from the mysterious recesses of the Great American Desert, are not unworthy to be compared with those of Fenimore Cooper himself. To unwind the thread of such a story as is *The White Chief* would be a very useless task. Suffice it to say that the hero, Carlos the Cibolero, will stand comparison, for skill, courage, and fertility of invention, with the great Leatherstocking himself. The style is vivid and fascinating, the interest never flags, and is often wound up to that pitch of painful intensity which is so grateful to the epicurean novel-reader. This novel will be one of the favourites of the season.

Helen Leeson: a Peep at New York Society. Philadelphia: Parry and M'Millan. 1855.

THE "peep" in question is so very unsatisfactory that we have no desire to have a full stare—at least from the point of view occupied by the author of this volume. The tale is a bad imitation of an English fashionable novel. And, by-the-by, what a curious illustration of republicanism may be gathered from the fact, that in all these fashionable American novels an English lord or baronet is the aristarch of New York society. Here we have both.

The Duke. By Mrs. GREY. London: G. Routledge. 1855. ("Railway Library.")

"In a splendid drawing-room, in one of the finest houses in London, where unbought wealth had accumulated every luxury to satisfy even her fastidious taste, Lady Clairville reclined on her velvet fauteuil, listless and unhappy." We quote this partly because it is the first sentence, and partly because it offers a very fair specimen of both the style and matter of Mrs. Grey's novel—the moral of which appears to be that when a young lady of eighteen gets a chance of marrying an old duke, she mustn't let it slip through her fingers.

Christian Melville. By the Author of "Matthew Paxton." London: Bogue. 1856.

WE must confess that we find no little inconsequence in this book. A young gentleman, intended for the Church, and bidding fair to take high academic honours, reads so much of Dr. Newman's works and Mr. Froude's "Nemesis of Faith," that he is compelled to run away and take to sea-faring. A wealthy and talented companion fares even worse; being brought to death's door by the same ill-advised course of reading. Trouble and hardship chasten Halbert Melville, the young academician, and he in turn is enabled to win back the wandering faith of his misguided companion. The moral is good and pious; but the question *cui bono* incessantly presents itself. Such a book cannot be needed to strengthen the faith of a true believer; and those who are not demand arguments somewhat more logical and consequential.

POETRY AND THE DRAMA.

The Vision and Creed of Fiers Ploughman. Edited by THOMAS WRIGHT, M.A., F.S.A. London: John Russell Smith. 1856.

THE demand for Mr. Pickering's edition of this curious specimen of the poetry of the Fourteenth Century has induced Mr. Wright to put forward the present, "edited from a contemporary manuscript." The historical introduction and copious notes are, as might have been expected, learned and clear. The question of authorship remains as obscure as ever; but Mr. Wright has contrived to throw some light upon the political and religious tendencies of this extraordinary squib—fifteen thousand lines long.

* "Sudden Death," Nov. 15th, 1854.

There is an excellent glossary appended; without which, indeed, the poem would be quite unreadable to any but a very profound Anglo-Saxon scholar. The work is printed in the old style, in imitation of Mr. Pickering.

Agamemnon the King: a Tragedy. From the Greek of *Æschylus*. By WILLIAM BLEW, M.A. London: Longmans. 1855.

AN attempt (not the first, as our readers will be well aware) to render the glorious lines of *Æschylus* into corresponding English. The subject of comparative translation is a tempting one, as also the propriety of employing rhyme in the translation of the classic measures. We may possibly take an early opportunity of recurring to these points. For the present we must be content to say that, so far as we have been able to test it, Mr. Blew's translation appears to be conscientious, elegant, and scholarly.

Cursory Notes on various Passages in the Text of Beaumont and Fletcher, as edited by the Rev. Alexander Dyce; and on his "Few Notes on Shakspeare." By JOHN MITFORD. London: John Russell Smith. 1856.

UPON the surface this pamphlet bears all the marks of a scholarly review of Mr. Dyce's editorial labours. Its precise value as a critical performance we must leave to be determined by those whose speciality it is to sift "new readings" of our old poets.

The Poetical Works of Johnson, Parnell, Gray, and Smollett, have been collected in the new volume of Mr. Nichol's splendid "Library Edition of the British Poets," which appears under the editorship of Mr. Gillfillan, and thus not only entitles itself to a welcome for its biographical and critical notices, but also by the beauty of its typography, its bold clear type, and its marvellous cheapness. It is a real library book, not printed for the purpose of compressing as much as possible into a page, to the infinite damage of the reader's vision, but so large that even the aged could read it with ease. It should be a part of every library, for it is within the reach of all.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A Statistical View of the Population, the Religions, and Languages of Europe, Transcaucasia, and Turkey in Asia, in 1855. By E. RAVENSTEIN. London: E. Stanford.

A MOST valuable addition to statistical literature. Here, within the compass of a very thin *livret*, we have an immense amount of information, complete of its kind, as to the various kingdoms of Europe. Maps and tables of figures show, with the greatest nicety, the statistics of population, language, and religion. Here are a few of the leading facts. Europe contains a superficial area of 2,912,455 geographical square miles, and has a population of 274,697,000 inhabitants, or 95 persons to the geographical square mile. Asia contains nearly four times as many inhabitants, and America about a quarter of the number; the former continent averages 68 persons to the square mile, and the latter only 5. The population of Belgium is of a greater density than that of any other part of Europe, inasmuch as it averages 525 inhabitants to the geographical square mile; that of Norway and Sweden is the least dense, averaging only 22; the British empire averages 310, and France 237; Russia averages 89. The British empire has 32 towns, each containing more than 50,000 inhabitants; France has only 14 such towns, and Russia only 8. More than six millions of the English live in these great towns; only two millions and a half of Frenchmen, and not quite one million and a half of Russians. There are fifty distinct languages in Europe, and about a hundred and fifty dialects. Nineteen of these languages are spoken by less than half a million of people each; only five are spoken by more than 20 millions each. It is estimated that there are in the world nearly 60 millions of persons who speak German and Dutch; nearly 53 millions who speak Russian, 50 millions who speak English, and 41 millions who speak French. As for religions, the whole world is supposed to contain 1,263,574,860 inhabitants, of whom nearly 335 millions profess Christianity, nearly 106 millions are Mohammedans, 6 millions are Jews, and 817 millions are classed generally as "the Heathen." In Europe 97 per cent. of the population profess Christianity, of whom 138 millions are Roman Catholics, and 62½ millions Protestant. These are a few of the highly interesting facts contained in this volume.

The Students' Handbook of Ancient History, from the Earliest Records to the Fall of the Western Empire. Edited by ISAIAH M'BURNEY, B.A. London and Glasgow: R. Griffin and Co. 1856.

IN the early part of the present year Messrs. Griffin published a "Cyclopædia of Universal History;" the present volume is merely a reprint of the first 121 pages of that work, with maps interspersed and an index appended. At the time, we pointed out a num-

ber of errors and inaccuracies in the modern portion of the Cyclopædia, such as were quite unpardonable in a book of reference; and subsequent examination has convinced us that that portion of the work would require a thorough revision to be of the slightest use in that capacity. The part, however, which referred to ancient history seemed to us to be executed very accurately and in a most satisfactory style; the addition of the maps and indexes now adds very considerably to its utility; and we can conscientiously recommend it as a book of reference to the scholar and the student.

The Emigrant's Home; or, How to Settle. By W. H. G. KINGSTON, Esq. London: Groombridge and Sons. 1856.

MR. KINGSTON, by his writings, has identified his name with colonial subjects these many years, and his last contribution does not seem likely to be the least useful of the excellent works which he has written for intending emigrants. This little volume is complete in its way, as an illustration of Australian experience. The passengers in an emigrant ship, diverse in their characters and qualifications, are followed out in their separate careers, and the elements of success or failure plainly pointed out in each. Mr. Kingston seems to have no great opinion of gold-digging, and far less of the fatuity which leads young men to emigrate without knowledge or qualifications of any kind—in fact, for no better reason than that they have been unsuccessful in the mother country. The benefits of industry and perseverance supply the moral of the book—an old moral surely, but one which cannot be too often inculcated.

The Agriculture of the French Exhibition: an Introductory Lecture delivered in the University of Edinburgh, Session 1855-6. By JOHN WILSON, F.G.S., F.C.S., &c. Edinburgh: A. and C. Black. 1855. THE Professor of Agriculture in the University of Edinburgh here gives a *résumé* of the Agricultural department of the French Exhibition—the special object of his attention at that industrial concourse. The lecture has been written with a thorough knowledge of the subject, albeit slightly tinged with a little national prejudice; as, for instance, when he says—"the admirably organised statistics of Scotland could not very well be shown; they would have contrasted too strongly with the poverty and prejudice of Southern England." Many interesting agricultural facts, developed by the French Exhibition, and noted by Professor Wilson, will be found in this lecture.

Why Not? A Plea for a Free Public Library and Museum in the City of London, established without Taxation. A Letter addressed to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor. By CHARLES REED, F.S.A. London: Walton and Maberly. 1855.

A WELL-CONCEIVED appeal to the new Lord Mayor, to do something in atonement for the disgrace which fell upon the City of London, when its ratepayers refused to follow the progressive examples of Liverpool and Manchester, by founding a Free Library for the industrious poor. Within a short pamphlet, of some twenty pages Mr. Reed has contrived to express all the facts and arguments necessary to a full elucidation of the question. If Lord Mayor Salomons be the man we take him to be, this appeal will not have been written in vain.

The Seventh Annual Report of the Royal Museum and Library, Peel Park, Manchester, 1855, presents a very cheering picture of the present state of this excellent institution. The library now contains 16,205 volumes, and the total number of volumes issued during the present year has been 115,457; in other words, each volume has been issued an average of seven times during the year. The statistical tables show a marked improvement in the *quality* of the reading,—useful and general literature gaining fast upon fiction, than which nothing can be a more healthy sign. Thanks to the liberality of resident gentlemen, the Museum also is fast progressing.

Flowers and Flower-Gardens. By DAVID LESTER RICHARDSON, Principal of the Hindu Metropolitan College. Calcutta: D'Rosario and Co. 1855.

THIS charming treatise on the garden Flora has been composed by Mr. Richardson with a view to propagating and improving a taste for horticulture among the native as well as the European inhabitants of Hindostan. In the illustration of his subject the author displays a most extensive knowledge of English literature, and his essay, adorned, as it is most profusely, with quotation and anecdote, has all the sparkle and elegance of a well-written magazine article.

The Newspaper and General Reader's Pocket Companion. London: J. F. Shaw. 1855.

A COLLECTION of hackneyed quotations, and the commonplaces of journalism and oratory translated into the vulgar tongue. Such a work may be useful, but we never should have supposed it.

Quintillian's Institutes of Oratory; or, the Education of an Orator, is added to "Bohn's Classical Library." The Rev. J. S. Watson is the translator. The defect of this treatise is its impracticability. It tries to convert oratory into a science, when it is only an art; it mingles oratory with logic, with which it has no real connection; and it lays down rules which, if strictly observed, would produce a stiff pedant perhaps, but not a man who can stir the hearts of his fellow-men, and persuade them by his own persuasions. Oratory cannot be taught, nor can it be reduced to rule, and therefore we have never yet seen a book upon it that was worth studying.

The Practical Housewife. By the EDITORS OF THE FAMILY FRIEND. London: Ward and Lock.

THIS little work is a most ambitious one, but its ambition is justified by performance. So varied a collection of recipes in cookery, housekeeping, medicine, and household and domestic matters generally, we believe does not elsewhere exist in any language. From the preparations necessary for a dinner-party to the sweeping of your parlours; from a bachelor's pudding to the care of your horse; from the carving of a herring to the application of a leech; from making a cough-mixture to waterproofing your boots—this book is a really sensible and practical guide and adviser. And it teaches economy as well as cooking; how to get and keep servants as well as how to cure a cold. It should become a household handbook everywhere, for it is a true Encyclopædia of Domestic Economy.

The Bayeux Tapestry Elucidated. By the Rev. JOHN COLLINGWOOD BRUCE, LL.D. London: J. R. Smith.

THIS is one of the most superbly illustrated books which has recently issued from the British press. A series of coloured engravings preserves in *fac-simile* the entire of the famous Bayeux Tapestry, before which he who desires to learn all about our ancestors in the days of the Norman Conquest may now quietly seat himself, and study them at his leisure, helping his own conjectures by the learned illustrations and explanations which have been collected by Mr. Bruce. The history of this renowned needlework, so far as it is known, introduces a minute and ingenious narrative of the story it is supposed to tell, seasoned with notes on divers historical topics suggested by a survey of the picture. With the drawing itself before him, and these various explanations to assist him, the reader will obtain a better knowledge of the time of the Norman Conquest than by the perusal of all the histories of it that have been written.

PERIODICALS AND SERIALS.

Blackwood closes "Zaidee" with the closing number for the year. This novel has not ended so well as it began. It has been too much hurried at the last. We miss, also, Major Hambley's interesting letters from the Crimea. There is a marvellous German legend to delight the Christmas circle. The other papers are somewhat heavy.

Bentley attracts by a new romance, from the prolific pen of Mr. Ainsworth, entitled "The Spendthrift." "The Winter Quarters of the Allies" is a picture from the spot by a visitor. Bailey's "Mystic," and Prescott's new History are carefully and copiously reviewed.

The *Eclectic* treats of the Italian Pre-Raphaelites, British Ferns, the Recollections of a Naturalist, the Philosophy of Locke, Constipation, and other subjects equally diversified.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* produces some curious parallel passages in the New Testament and the ancient classic authors. But its most amusing paper is Dr. Doran's "Romance and Reality." Many relics of the old time are here preserved, and there is the usual copious biography of recently deceased personages of note.

The *Dublin Magazine* mingles fact and fiction very pleasantly. "Our Men-of-War's Men," "Geological Surveys," and "Irish Rovers" are of the former class; "The Fortunes of Glencoe," and "The Old House of Darkbrothers," of the latter. The best poetry to be found in any of the periodicals is always to be seen here. We understand that this Magazine has been purchased by Messrs. Hurst and Blackett.

The *Ladies' Companion* to an inappropriate engraving of "A Complete Angler" adds a more attractive one of the fashions. The original essays, tales, and poetry, are well calculated to please the readers.

Hogg's Instructor continues to entitle itself to popularity by some excellent papers on Science and Natural History.

The *Art Journal* closes its volume for the year with an exquisite engraving of Plater's "Flute-players," and another of Cooper's "Pastures," both from the Royal Galleries; and there are numerous woodcuts of the objects of art in the Paris Exhibition.

We have received the first number of a work designed to preserve *Historical and Geographical Sketches of the Hungarian Generals* who distinguished themselves in the war of Independence. This part contains a memoir and portrait of General Meszaros.

FOREIGN LITERATURE.

THE CRITIC ABROAD.

LEWES, in his *Life of Goethe*, has done much to reconcile the poet to the public as a man. For there be many who, while wondering at his great and beautiful genius, wonder also whether he had a heart, whether this glorious person was not, after all, coldest marble, without arterial pulsation, without any beatings of heart? Menzel may have influenced some in their judgment of Goethe; the poet's own writings may have influenced many more. For instance, in "*Wilhelm Meister*," we have always read—we believe, now, misread—the character of the poet, as written by himself. Here is a young man, having genius and ambition; but his heart is not in his own keeping: it is too plastic; and one impression made upon it is soon obliterated by another. He loves; but his love is not abiding. Like a bee, he flies from flower to flower, no degree of sweetness long detaining him. He loves the flower, indeed, while he nestles in its chalice; but the rose is soon forgotten for the carnation, and now he has gone and is influenced by the pansy. This Meister is a genuine piece of German tinder; his heart is inflamed by the smallest spark and burns out. He has another and another heart, which shares the same fate. Has he a heart of asbestos, which, cast into the flames, shall yet remain intact—untainted with sensuality and the reek of basest egoism? We believe this Meister or this Goethe had a heart capable of loving, and loving enduringly. Goethe, in fact, had a most capricious heart to receive all things loveable; and when once received there, we believe, in spite of the adverse opinion of many, that there they were retained and became part and parcel of his own being. We can understand his boy's love for Gretchen, and how he must have felt when he found that she treated him like a boy, and jilted him though her head had reposed on his bosom all the night after the pic-nic party. We can understand how he could love Käthchen Schönkopf, the pretty daughter of the wine-seller; and how he could be captivated by his titular wife, Anna Sybilla Münch, drawn in a marriage lottery. Then there was Lili, the beautiful Lili, the affectionate Anna Elizabeth Schönemann, of whom he said, "She was the first, and I can also add she is the last, I truly loved; for all the inclinations which have since agitated my breast were superficial and trivial in comparison." Nay, nay, we believe that the poet truly loved his last friend, Christiane Vulpius, the pretty, little, lively, pleasure-loving blonde, who subsequently became his wife, who was truly attached to him, and served him for eight-and-twenty years with that complete devotion which a woman only can exhibit—and that he loved her to his dying day.

Let every one know that scandals many have been told of Christiane and Goethe. She was not his cook, not his scullion, but a pure and intelligent creature, whom he encountered at that period of life when the heart of man is disposed to take its last and durable impression. She was first the mother of his son; she became his lawful wife. Beneath him in station, she was his equal in heart; and, as his equal in this respect, he took her to his bosom, to the great scandal of all the respectabilities of young maids and old maids of Weimar. Christiane died in 1816, and Goethe was overpowered with grief. It is known how he knelt by the bed whereon she lay dead, and, grasping her cold hand, exclaimed in desolation of heart—"Thou wilt not leave me! Nay, nay, thou must not leave me!" Two days after her death, writing to Zelter, he says: "When I tell thee, thou sorely-tried son of earth, that my dear little wife has been taken away from me, thou wilt know what that means." Four days after this, to Louise Seidler, he writes: "A thousand thanks to my dear friends and neighbours of Jena for their words of comfort. Through the great loss I have sustained, life will only become bearable when I reckon up by degrees the love and kindness which still remain for me." And to her memory he erects a monument in the following verses:—

Du versuchst, o Sonne, vergebens
Durch die düstern Wolken zu scheinen;
Der ganze Gewinn meines Lebens
Ist ihren Verlust zu beweinen.

In vain, O Sun, thou seekest to shine through clouds

of darkness; the whole gain of my life is now to weep her loss.

Goethe and Christiane Vulpius have been brought to our remembrance through a book just sent us; its date* anticipating the year—*Freundschaftliche Briefe von Goethe und seiner Frau an Nicolaus Meyer. Aus den Jahren 1800—1831* ("Friendly Letters, &c., to N. M."). This Meyer was a physician, established first at Bremen, afterwards at Minden, and early known to the poet. They appear to have been on the most intimate terms. The letters, we are told by the publisher, are for the most part dictated and signed only by the poet; now and then he adds a few words in his own hand at the bottom of the sheet. Christiane's letters are chiefly in her own hand-writing; but sometimes they were dictated to her brother, sometimes to Geist or Von Riemer, Goethe's secretaries. The collection, as a whole, gives us some insight into the poet's domestic life and ménage. We find him in his slippers and dressing-gown, and looking over the undignified æsthetics of the wine-cellar, the pantry, and kitchen. He was certainly not indifferent to the good things of this life—had more than a little of the Sybarite about him, and no great fault in that. The earth produces sweet wines; why, except from morbid affectation, should we imbibe vinegar and make wry mouths? Why, if we can gather roses, should we scramble over ditches to gather fetid horsehound? In one of his letters he thanks Meyer for "the excellent fish and costly wines" he had sent him. The poet must eat and drink like other mortals; the pity is, that he cannot always eat of the best or drink of the best. Then as to a great man writing upon such small subjects as buttons, socks, flannel waistcoats and such-like wardrobe matters, Goethe himself has placed on record—"Letters are among the most important memorials which an individual can leave of himself." What a rush there would be to Wellington-street, from every quarter of the world, could Sotheby announce that he was about to dispose of a genuine letter by Shakespeare to his tailor, giving directions about the cut and fashion of his doublet! Here, in a letter, we have Goethe acknowledging the receipt of "a packet of stockings for Egloffstein; one ditto, in oil-cloth, for Secretary Vulpius; one ditto in paper; one little box for Professor Henry Meyer; two packets of books for myself;" then he reckons up the cost, with all the minuteness of a Joseph Hume, and, after deducting a remittance, admits that he owes his friend a balance of some twelve thalers odd. In another letter he acknowledges the receipt of a present of rose-wine, from his friend the Doctor. "You have sent me, my dearest friend, your aged wine to cheer and regale me on my natal day. It is valuable in a double sense, as well from its rarity as the kindness of the giver. Of this rose-wine, sent him from Bremen, we have the following account:—

The well-known costly rose-wine, five hogsheads of which had been in the cellars of the Town Hall of Bremen from 1624, was at that time valued at 300 thalers. In 1816 it was calculated that this same wine, at ten thalers per cent. compound interest added, was worth 239,695,280 thalers, or 35,954,192*l.*, the ohm; 3,268,572*l.* the bottle; 403,571*l.* the glass; and 358*l.* the drop. In 1824 a few flasks of this rose-wine was sent to honour his birth-day.

In other letters Goethe acknowledges to his friend Dr. Meyer the receipt of such homely things as butter, a barrel of herrings, a packet of newspapers, Malaga, Madeira (the poet, poor old man, appears to have been fond of a cheering glass), again fish, fowls, and other matters belonging to the larder. Coins, medals, vases and other antiquities are sent to him and duly noticed. In the purchase of the latter articles, Christiane exercised a judicious control over the purse-strings. She did not begrudge a barrel of herrings, or a cask of wine—of which, poor thing, she was at one period of her life rather too fond, to her own and Goethe's sorrow—but she could not understand why money should be spent on fragments of Etruscan pottery and specimens of the coinage of Greece and Rome. Goethe in these letters exhibits a man most scrupulous and punctual in money matters. To

his friend Dr. Meyer he announces his marriage, after the occupation of Weimar by the French, when his house was invaded, and his wine-cellars drained by doughty dragoons and dry-lipped grenadiers, and when Christiane was driven out of her senses almost, with the eternal hubbub and racket that prevailed, in these terms:—

"Weimar, 20 Oct., 1806.—We live! Our house was saved from fire and plunder by a miracle. The reigning Duchess, with ourselves, has experienced the most wretched hours. Her we have to thank for hopes of better days in future. . . . Singular that this day of disasters was one of beautiful sunshine. To cheer up these dismal days by a festivity, I and my little housekeeper were yesterday united in holy wedlock, on the twentieth Sunday after Trinity."

Goethe's letters, treating of little matters, are still elegant, and betray great consideration and a kindness of heart which has often been denied him. The letters of Christiane are, in general, longer than those of her husband, treating in homely style of domestic matters—home joys and cares. Her affection for Goethe was deep and unaffected. On him she entirely rested. Once she writes of Goethe, who had been unwell: "Matters yet are better with the Geheim-Rath. But I fear that it is only patchwork. O God, to think that a time may come when I shall feel quite alone, is to destroy many a pleasant hour. . . . Think of me sometimes; for, beyond you and the Geheim-Rath, I have not a single friend in the world." The admirers of the poet will read this collection of letters with great interest.

We have now by our side another little work having reference to two of the great poets of Germany, edited by A. Diezmann—*Aus Weimars Glanzzeit, &c.* ("Of the Glory-time of Weimar. Unpublished letters by and relating to Goethe and Schiller.") It has been said of Goethe that he fancied he loved; of Schiller that he did love. Both loved; both were genial; each had his circle of friends and admirers. Yet, upon the whole, it may be ventured upon to say that Schiller was beloved more than Goethe, while the towering genius of the latter excited the greatest wonder. In these letters, written about the close of the last century, we find nothing new—nothing much to arrest attention. They appear to have been collected and published as mere relics, and give little insight to the characters of the men. What more common-place than the following note from Schiller:—"As I have often payments to make in Jena, I take the liberty, my dear friend, to ask you to do so in my name. I pray you to pay Paulsen 45 thalers, and Göpferdt 5 thalers at your convenience." The letters about the two men have more interest. "Goethe has been ennobled," writes G. R. Voigt, in 1728; "we shall see what he will do as Herr von Goethe." His nobility made him neither a worse poet nor a more supple courtier. The bit of red ribbon did not spoil the man. Snatches of gossip about the times and the men of the times form the staple of the second half of the book.

Joseph Wenzig is still industriously employed in recommending the literature of his native Bohemia, through translations, to the Germans. The literature of Bohemia dates from the fourteenth century. Among the hundred and eighty writers of that age, mentioned by Jungmann, Thomas von Stitue "towers like an Alp" above all the rest. He was born in 1325; the year of his death is uncertain. He was a voluminous writer, distinguished by deep religious feeling, a genuine love of nature, love of the beautiful, and love of his mother tongue. From his "Thoughts on God" we give an extract in prose form:

The world is like a book that by the hand, I mean the power, of heavenly wisdom has been out-written; and everything in creation is as a word written within this book, setting forth the power and wisdom of the Almighty. Hence comes it, as it often happens, that one takes up the book and looks therein, but nothing understandeth. A second comes, and loud extols the outward of the book—its handsome binding. And then a third, he looks within, and the fair writing praises. The spiritual man alone understands the sense that in the words resideth.

The *Rosmarinkranz* ("Rosemary Wreath") is another collection of Bohemian poems translated into German. The rosemary, the preface informs us, plays an important part in the poetry of the Bohemians; for the maiden is adorned with it

as well when she is led to the altar as a bride as when she is laid on her bier—the holy earnest of earth and heaven is fastened upon her brows. In Stulc's "Salomon" occur the following verses:—

1. Prefer not, O my son, the pallid half light of the glorious beam; day beshames the dim night ever; better sun than starlight sheen. Never doth the rose-tree blossom in the glimmer of the night; and the fruit-tree ripens never in the moonshine e'er so bright.

2. And, my son, trust not the likeness—listen to its sad defects; know that truth may still be absent, and that age oft youth affects. Star can never star unmake, and truth make never truth descend; pearl the pearl can never rival, truth can virtue ne'er defend.

To a farther collection of Bohemian poesy and of Portuguese sonnets we shall endeavour to make early reference.

Foreign Books recently published.

[Where prices are given the franc has been valued at a shilling, and the thaler at three shillings, as in importing books duty and carriage have to be reckoned.]

FRENCH.

- Augustine Millot. J. de Marchegirard. 3 vols. Paris. 8vo. 32s.
Biographie du Comte de Guibert. C. Forestié. Paris. 8vo. De la haute éducation intellectuelle. Dupanloup. Tom. I. Paris. 8vo. 7s.
Essai sur les Confessions de J. J. Rousseau. C. Estienne. Paris. 12mo. 3s. 6d.
Etude sur Bayle. C. Lenient. Paris. 8vo. 2s.
Histoire des artistes vivants, avec les portraits des artistes. T. Silvestre. Paris. 8vo. 1s.
Histoire de la médecine grecque depuis Esculape jusqu'à Hippocrate exclusivement. S. Hondart. Paris. 8vo. 6s.
La France illustrée. Géographie, histoire, &c. V. A. Maite-Brun. Paris. 8vo. 42s.
Histoire des capitales. Constantinople, ancienne et moderne, &c. J. M. Cayla. Paris. 8vo. 1s. 6d.
La vie d'une comédienne, Minette. Théod. de Banville. Paris. 32mo. 1s.
La Consulat de Courmonterrat. Fragment de l'histoire du XIV. siècle. A. Germain. Montpellier. 4to.
Les Beaux-Arts en Europe, 1855. Théophile Gautier. Paris. 18mo.
Les chercheurs d'amour, scène de la vie romanesque. P. Boyer. Paris. 18mo. 1s.
L'esprit des autres. E. Fournier. 2d edit. Paris. 18mo. 2s.
Manuel de la navigation dans la mer Adriatique, d'après Marioni. A. Le Gras. Paris. 8vo. 12s.

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- Das grosse Geheimnis der menschliche Doppelnatur. 8vo. 3s.
Die schönsten Deutschen Sagen, &c. (The prettiest German legends and stories in prose and verse, from the earliest times). Schanz and Kauffer. Illustrated. Dresden. 4to. 1s.
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Grundzüge, &c. (Principles of a System of Philosophy, or Encyclopædia of the Philosophical Sciences). K. F. Fischer. Frankfurt a. M. 8vo. 6s.
Urgeschichte, &c. (Primitive History of the Indo-Germanic nations). Jacob Kruger. Bonn. 8vo.

PERSIAN.

- Abou'l Kasim Firdousi. (The Book of Kings. Published, translated, and commented by Jules Mohl. Vol. 4.) Paris. 8vo. Imprimerie impériale. 90s.

FRANCE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Paris, Dec. 14.

RACINE is only known to the great majority of the English public as the author of several very dull tragedies, which but for Rachel would be unbearable. Not one in twenty of those who witness the performances of *la grande tragédienne*, and certainly not one in a hundred who thumb *Esther* or *Athalie* at school, dream that Racine was an elegant and accomplished scholar, and that his critiques on the Greek drama, and his Essays, have long been looked up to in France as models of taste and unpedantic erudition. These Essays were scattered in the collection of "Mémoires" or "Minutes," published by the Académie des Inscriptions et des Belles Lettres, and in other works of an equally recondite and unpopular character. The Marquis de la Rochefoucault-Liancourt has collected all he could discover, edited and published them, under the title of *Etudes littéraires et morales de Racine*. From a perusal of this work, the suspicion which many entertain that Racine's treatment of some subjects, in a manner offering at once an analogy and a difference with that which the same subjects may have met with at the hands of the Greek tragic writers, was the result of design rather than accident, becomes a conviction. Racine was evidently not only a most diligent reader, but an assiduous commentator; and, had he had the misfortune of being a German, would undoubtedly have been professor in some university, and spent his life in repairing "l'irréparable outrage" which time and unskilful scholars have inflicted upon the text of the best Greek authors. Homer, Sophocles,

Euripides, Æschylus, the Bible, and the Fathers, were quite familiar to him; and he has made such extensive loans from them, and at the same time departed so entirely from them—taming down the rugged Hippolytus to a smooth-tongued, well-shaven courtier—that, although not free from the reproach of imitation, he is not obnoxious to that of being wholly devoid of originality. Besides the Essays, this little volume contains valuable notes, and a variety of other interesting matter; not the least curious is a list of all the actors who, in theatrical parlance, created the parts, i. e. performed them for the first time. Thus we find that *Esther* was performed for the first time exclusively by the fair pupils of the school of St. Cyr—Mlle. de Lallie, de Glapion, and d'Abancourt being respectively Assuerus, Mardochée, and Aman. In *Athalie* the part of Joad was first played by Baron the actor, the Duke of Orleans taking that of Abner the high-priest.

The Great Exhibition just concluded had its advantages no doubt; but, like all human things, it was not without its evils. By way of a counterpoise, and not the least of these, is the legacy of which it has left us in the shape of writers who fancy themselves called upon to favour the public with their views about its results, political, social, and industrial. Among these *L'Exposition à vol d'oiseau*, by M. Claudin, is perhaps pre-eminent for its dullness. The object of this book is thus stated by a friendly reviewer:—"M. Claudin has been seized with a noble emulation to add his voice to the concert of religious enthusiasm which the Exhibition has called forth." M. Claudin, the same benevolent critic tells us, "belongs to that category of writers whom the positivism, or rather the industrialism, of the age does not scare beyond measure, and who, without ceasing to make a special study of the eternal dramas of the soul, desire to find for industry a place among the arts." This incomprehensible twaddle will give you a fair idea of the work itself. The reviewer and the reviewed may be shaken in a bag together; neither will be improved or deteriorated by the process.

A writer in the *Revue de Paris*, M. Fournel, on whose writings I have already had occasion to call the favourable attention of your readers, gives in the present number some highly interesting details on "Dining in Paris." Not the dinners of the Café de Paris, or the Café Anglais, or those temples of Gastrimargia all civilised beings blessed with ample means and a good digestion are supposed to be familiar with—but the low dens where bad cheap dinners are made by porters and *chiffonniers*, and the somewhat more pretentious establishments where the "shabby genteel" do mostly congregate. Though averse to statistics, M. Fournel tells us that Paris daily consumes 200 oxen, 250 calves, 290 pigs, and 1200 sheep—an estimate which strikes us as rather below the mark; but then M. Fournel naïvely admits that he does not take into account the poultry, or the horses, dogs, cats, and other loathsome animals, which are absorbed by Paris under the disguise of rabbits and even game! He assures us that the cheese annually devoured by the capital represents a sum of 3,500,000 francs worth of cheese, or 140,000l. sterling.

All visitors to Paris cannot but have been struck by the immense number of wine-shops. M. Fournel commences his cruise among cheap refreshment-shops and eating-houses with some interesting details touching these establishments. According to M. Fournel, we ought not to speak disparagingly of the *marchands de vins*. If some of them prove the ruin of many who frequent them, the fault is to be laid at their door rather than at that of the vendors. Many of those who turn up their noses at them have probably more than once silyly dived into their recesses for economical refreshment. In fact, (says M. Fournel, if every time one's mouth felt parched in a hot Paris summer's day, an ice at Tortoni's or a glass of soda-water at the Café Cardinal, were the only means at hand to allay one's thirst, the luxury would prove rather expensive for those not basking in the smiles of fortune. But at the wineshop, for two sous (one penny), the average price of the "consommation," you may quietly enjoy your canon of wine, or your "groselle," and *eau de Seltz*, sit for an hour in the cool shady back parlour, and read the *Siecle*. The waiter expects no gratuity. Most of these wine-shop-keepers also keep a restaurant, of which M. Fournel speaks highly. Many of these hybrid establishments have been the origin of some of the most famous gastronomic houses on the Boulevards—*testes* Verdier l'Olive's, near the Halle, where the unsophisticated reader.

qui potest archaiciis conviva recumbere lectis,

and can put up with massive crockery, is strongly recommended to visit, and pay his respects to good Mme. l'Olive's Pommard. To return to the *marchands de vin*. Their shops, well nigh deserted in the daytime, have from four to seven a.m. been doing a roaring business. Before the genteel part of the world think of rising, masons, carmen, rag-gatherers, carpenters, &c., have tossed off their canon, and had their morning gossip about the Czar and Sebastopol. As for restaurants, beginning by the lower end of the scale, the palm undoubtedly belongs to an establishment which carries on its operations in the open air, on the Place du Chatelet. Between

the fountain, which occupies the centre of the place, and the houses which form its eastern boundary, four or five long deal boards are placed on tressels, and form the table; wooden benches supply the place of chairs. Table-cloth and napkins, it is hardly necessary to say, are luxuries unheard of. As soon as any individual—man, woman, or child—intent on dining, drops down on the bench, a stout, jovial-looking, middle-aged matron places before him a tin spoon and fork, and a deep earthenware platter; then, taking off the cover from a capacious tin vessel resting on the ground beside her, ladles out a plateful of greyish-looking stuff, in which a few cabbage-stalks float about *ravi nantes*. This is the soup. When the customer has disposed of it, the hostess *cleans* the plate without lifting it from the table, by passing a wet towel over it. She then makes a lunge with an instrument resembling a diminutive pitchfork in a second tin vessel; she withdraws from it a piece of boiled beef, which she submerges beneath an avalanche of black beans, taken from a third tin pot. Each man provides his own bread, and brings his knife with him. For those who are thirsty the fountain is close at hand, unless they prefer to pay a visit to one of the many wine-shops that stud the neighbourhood. The price of the dinner is *three sous* (1½d.); and yet the seller obtains a large profit.

The rag-gatherers or *chiffonniers* have eating-houses of their own in the Quartier St. Jacques, behind the Polytechnic School, the most stylish of which is a house in the Rue des Amandiers, St. Geneviève. The *chiffonniers* are not over-delicate; but, judging from the prices, which are rather high, this must be their *Maison Dorée*. I subjoin a list of the prices:—beer, the bottle, 10 and 15 centimes (1d. and 1½d.); coffee, with the *petit verre*, 10 centimes (1d.); soup, 5 and 10 centimes (½d. and 1d.); a plate of cabbage, 5 centimes (½d.); a plate of beans, do.; stewed, 10 centimes (1d.); boiled beef and bacon, do.; sausages, 5 and 10 centimes (½d. and 1d.). *Dessert*: stewed prunes, 5 centimes. Now this is really not cheap; for, supposing all the above-mentioned delicacies are partaken of, the *carte* amounts to at least sixpence-halfpenny; and the maximum prices would make it eight pence, a sum which, to many a hard-working artisan, would seem to be extravagant. A shabby-genteel dining-house, where no less than 700 persons daily feed at the same time, is to be seen in the Rue Rambuteau. The price is only 80 centimes per head, and the *cuisine* is so good that Mr. Fournel tells us that numbers have to be turned from the doors disappointed.

The theatres of Paris, which have been so long flourishing upon the crowds of strangers attracted by the Exhibition, already feel the change effected by its close—their receipts in the course of the month ending on the 1st instant having diminished by upwards of 80,000l., or two millions of francs, from the month preceding. This hint, which affects every manager in his most sensitive part, his *poche*, has set all these establishments to work for the production of novelty, of which the last week or two has furnished an abundant crop. The Grand Opera, which by the large—too large—allowance of means from Government (something near upon 40,000l. per annum) stands rather apart from the other theatres, has brought forward nothing, but promises a new ballet in the course of a week or two, to be followed by a couple of operettas by new composers. The Director has made a valuable acquisition in the person of Mme. Borghi Mamo, one of the finest contralto voices (save that of Mlle. Alboni's) we have heard for years. She has, however, one decided advantage over that portly lady, namely, she feels what she sings, and acts admirably, without any of the exaggeration which is the besetting sin of Italian *cantatrici* when they act at all. I mention this particularly, as one of your weekly contemporaries, who writes very oracularly indeed on foreign operatic matters, describes Mme. Borghi as entirely deficient in this respect. This lady is very new to Paris and London, as she has accepted an engagement at 48,000 francs (a trifle under 2000l.) a year. Had she more experience she would have blushed at receiving such a sum, although quite sufficient remuneration, in the opinion of rational beings, for the services of any singer in the universe. When, however, we see worn-out and often indifferent vocalists receiving four, five, nay, even ten thousand pounds (250,000 francs) per annum, one wonders at anything like reasonable modesty among this spoiled and overpaid class. As I have stated before, Mlle. Cruvelli's salary at the Grand Opera amounts to 10,000l.; and it is understood that the Director has offered to increase it by 1200l. should she consent to prolong her engagement for another year. The reply is, it seems, yet waited for. Another good singer, but of less pretensions, Mme. Tedesco, has also been added to the Grand Opera, where Roger is also about permanently to resume his post. But neither these additions and the lavish expenditure bestowed upon the scenery, costumes, and other accessories, will ever make the Grand Opera other than what it is—one of the most tiresome theatres in Europe—without an entire change of system. Their interminable five-act operas, lengthened out by a kind of half ballet dance which takes up the best part of an hour, are positive nuisances, worthy to rank with the superannuated coucous and diligences with which the Parisians used to perform all their journeys for business or pleasure for half a century after England

and other countries had adopted the improved mail-coach. Strange that a country so fond of revolution should persist in venerability like this Grand Opera. At the Italiens affairs are looking up. Verdi's *Trovatore* has been most successful in its revival, with Mario in the tenor part. He is, however, quite out of his place, and the exertions he is compelled to use threaten serious injury to the residue of his still charming voice. The fact is, a much less refined singer than Mario, with a good pair of stentorian lungs, after the fashion of Bettini, answers the purpose of Verdi quite as well. Mme. Penco, an excellent *artiste*, sings—or rather, *did* sing—the soprano part capably; but, being indisposed one day last week, she announced the fact to the Director, who, having just engaged Mme. Frezzolini, applied to that lady to oblige him. After demurring some little time as to the shortness of the notice, the fair Erminia consented, and all was sunshine. At the time of raising the curtain, however, she waited on the Director with a written paper in her hand, which she requested him to sign, that being the only condition on which she would go on for the part. The paper was an engagement that, in return for Mme. Frezzolini accepting the *role* at this emergency, it should be sung exclusively by herself during the remainder of the season. The manager stared! But he had no choice, and the adroit lady holds possession of the character; for which, it must be added, that her wasted form and exhausted voice so thoroughly unfit her, that in the third act she becomes completely inaudible, and the audience only know she is singing by the motion of her lips. The journalist who acquaints the world with this amiable little trait on the part of the newly engaged *artiste*, adds, that, had M. Calzado been somewhat better acquainted with theatrical regulations in Paris, he would have only had to raise the curtain, and leave the rest to the police, who would have taken care that the lady proceeded with her part. The Opéra Comique and Lyrique have each brought forward two trifling novelties, but neither are worth troubling you with their names.

The Vaudeville has rather won the honours of the last fifteen days, in a little drama called *Le fils de M. Goddard*. Admirably written, and replete with situations the most touching and natural, this piece has one capital defect which will exclude it from representation wherever the licence of the stage is not carried to an extent almost revolting. The foundation for the drama is a case of bastardy, by which the peace of two families is placed in jeopardy, and two "uterine" brothers, one a natural son, forced to fight a duel, or remain subject to a disgraceful charge of cowardice. The agony of the father, who is the confidant of all these terrible disclosures, and the general effect of the play, are finely brought out; but the vile taste of the original incident degrades the whole composition, and quite deprives the author, M. Bourgeois, of the *Kiddes* which should follow a play of such genuine merit.

At the Français, a new comedy has been accepted, called *Le Coin du Monde*, but was withdrawn by the author, M. Lebeux, on his receiving, it is said, the modest indemnity of 300 francs (12*l.*) Another is also accepted written by M. de Beauplan, entitled *L'Exemple*, and is shortly to be performed. In the mean time Mme. George Sand's piece is in rehearsal at the Français. It is said to have one peculiarity—neither the author, directors, nor actors, are able to tell whether it should be called a tragedy, or a comedy, or a drama. Mme. Sand is a very clever person; but what she has ever written for the stage to entitle her to the patronage of the Government as a dramatist, the world are as yet completely in the dark. This lady, by the way, was one of the writers who drew up the Republican Constitution after the Revolution of 1848, called the *Constitution Impossible*. The wicked part of the world say that the impossible ingredient was the invention of Mme. George Sand, and that an illustrious Personage thus shows his gratitude to one of the unconscious instruments of his elevation to the Empire.

ITALY.

MODERN LITERATURE IN PIEDMONT.

FROM OUR ITALIAN CORRESPONDENT.)

(Continued from page 589.)

THE opportunity was offered me of making the acquaintance of one commonly esteemed as the first living poet of Italy—Giovanni Prati, resident in Turin, but at this season of *villeggiatura*, unfortunately for myself, absent in some rural retreat. This distinguished writer, still in the vigour of life and intellect, published his first work, two volumes of *Idyls*, *Canzoni*, and *Monodies*, in 1844; and in the same year, *Memorie e Lacrime* ("Remembrances and Tears"), a volume of sonnets, mostly allusive to domestic sorrows, but in part addressed to the great poets of Italian and other lands—Silvio Pellico, Byron, Alfieri, Ugo Foscolo, &c. A few years later appeared his *Ermengarda*, a story in *versi sciolti* of pathetic character and domestic incidents; and, besides a small volume of "Letters on Art," have been

given to the public lately, by the same pen, "Satan and the Graces," a poem also in *versi sciolti*, the startling title of which might lead to unjust inferences, though nothing objectionable, morally or religiously, can really be urged against it; also "Rodolfo," a narrative, in several cantos, the conception of which is original and felicitous, the hero being a youth somewhat of the Don Juan calibre, but who, instead of being corrupted, is elevated by life's experiences, and, after long wanderings in strange lands, erring and repenting and suffering, to become "a sadder and a wiser man," returns to Italy to meet death in the struggle for liberty at the defence of Vicenza, 1848. It is to be regretted that the munificence of a Mæcenas has interfered with the popularity of this, the last publication of Prati, the Marquis Pallavicino having purchased from him the MS. at a liberal price, and brought out the poem in an expensive edition, hitherto the only one issued. I am told the author has made arrangements for a complete edition of his works, shortly to appear at Paris.

Regaldi is author of many admired lyrics, who has won reputation as an improvisatore in several countries, and whose collected compositions are now being published in the 9th edition, divided into parts, the first volume of which has lately been reviewed in most favourable terms by the official *Gazette* of Piedmont. During his journeys to London, Paris, through all provinces of Italy, and some Oriental regions, it seems that the studies of Regaldi have been perpetually directed to higher attainments than the exercise of spontaneous talent alone could have effected by its transient triumphs. The first publication of his poems was at Naples, 1846; and among the contents of the volume just issued, as distinguished by loftiness of theme and beauty of language, a "Hymn to the Deity from the Summit of Etna," "Man and the Angel," "The Willow of St. Helena," "Morning Prayer," &c.; and another of a different class (instanting reconciliation between the spirit of poetry and practical science applied to civilisation) the "Electric Telegraph," with which, and a Latin version of the same, this volume closes.

With another whose powers have been generally recognised as an imaginative writer, Giuseppe Revere, I have had the pleasure of making acquaintance here. A native of the Venetian island of Grado, he is now settled in Turin, and occasionally contributes to the *Revista Contemporanea*. Of still youthful aspect, athletic figure, and fine frank countenance, he is a most prepossessing person, and singularly felicitous in conversation, so unaffectedly eloquent that we may be well contented to act only the listener in his society. Signor Revere began to write poetry in England, has published many prose dramas, and is now engaged on a tale in blank verse. *Giovanni di Grado*, the story of a fisherman who, from that Adriatic Isle, sets out on long journeyings, visits the East, observes, studies, and learns; a fragment of this, remarkable for graphic power, describing the port and city of Trieste, I have had the advantage of hearing read by the author, with much effect. Being an Oriental scholar, deeply interested in the mythology and history of Hindostanee nations, much may be expected from him in this poem when the adventures of his fisherman are introduced under Eastern skies. Lemonnier is about to publish at Florence the dramas, collected in one volume, the most finished compositions of Revere: *Lorenzino di Medici* (of which, I believe, Damas has largely availed himself in his treatment of the same story), *Savonarola*, *Il Marchese di Bedmar*, and *Sampiero*. Among these, perhaps, *Savonarola* will be most generally interesting; it may be called a dramatico-historic romance—for neither in form or intention can it be referred to the stage—divided into parts instead of acts, and in the first edition occupying two volumes, followed by an extract from Nardi's *Storia della Città di Firenze*, giving a full narrative of the public career and tragic death of that celebrated friar, on testimony of an eye-witness. The work is historic, not only in its fidelity to real incidents, but in its portraiture of local manners; departing as widely as possible from old established canons of the Italian scene, it aims at showing us the people of Florence at this epoch, not merely the characters or actions of a few noted personages; perhaps open to objection indeed, for allowing too much to the subordinate grouping, dwelling too long on scenes of vulgarity, dialogues of low life in some instances displaying only degraded passions. But the idea is excellent, the effect often highly successful, from the strong relief given to passages of deeper interest and characters of higher tone. The scene in the prison, after the torture of Savonarola—his rapturous and mystic communings, when he sees with visionary eyes the corruptions of the Roman Court and crimes of the Borgia house, prophecies the sack of Rome and siege of Florence; the execution scene, with its terrific details and surgings of popular excitement—both are admirably wrought, leaving the impression of dread realities personally witnessed. The "Marquis of Bedmar; or, Venice and the Spaniards in 1618," is the story which Otway took such liberties with to work up in that tragically ranting, of passion and mawkish sentiment, "Venice Preserved." Revere has dramatised its reality, only adding a female character, by whose means the conspiracy is discovered in a perfectly

natural manner—Maria Valier, the sister of Jacopo, one of the conspirators who is murdered by Euphrosyne, a beautiful Greek slave, leagued with their cause in the secret object of avenging her wrongs on her betrayer. This last, the principal female character, is terrible in beauty and passion, eloquent in vindictiveness, goaded by the memory of injured innocence. Jaffier, a leading conspirator, the lover of Maria, is a Provençal captain, and Jacques Pierra, a Norman corsair (according to history), both adventurers in the service of the Republic; and the Spanish ambassador, Bedmar, promotes their desperate enterprise, himself protected by official privilege, from motives of national jealousy. The most striking scene is the final, where the bodies of Jaffier, Renault, and Euphrosyne are suddenly displayed by the raising of a curtain to Bedmar before the Inquisition of State. *Sampiero* is an episode in the history of Corsica, 1562, in which the patriot so named played a conspicuous part at Marseilles. In the *Revista* have appeared a series of papers by Revere, half-comic, half-serious, and full of originality, called "Recollections of the Deacon Anacleto," a mysterious personage, whose acquaintance the author casually makes, and with whom he agrees to travel and study for a time. Anything but orthodox does this individual prove, and, indeed, open to suspicions for which he would have been burnt as a necromancer by the Spanish Inquisition. Revere's is a mind too earnest to treat religious questions with frivolity; but I am sorry to observe the unsettled state of opinion on vital questions which the vague ratiocinations of his imaginary deacon too clearly betray—a specimen, it is to be feared, of tendencies gaining ground among ardent and dissatisfied minds in Italy. A poem by the same writer, "Marengo," the subject taken from the renowned battle-field, has had a strange fate in publication; the edition was prepared at some house in Milan, just before the tumults of '48, and amid the confusion ensuing all the copies were destroyed or dispersed. A fragment, however, has been saved in the pages of the *Revista Contemporanea*, and has merits sufficient to excite regret for the fate of the remainder.

One of the most deeply thinking writers of the day in Italy, and who, though not by birth, has become by adoption a Piedmontese, is Niccolò Tommasio, formerly the colleague of Manin in the Provisional Government of Venice, now Professor of Literature in the Commercial College at Turin. He is, I believe, about the age of sixty, and has a fine head, with long curling beard, that might be made the study for an Apostle. Walking through the streets, his air is that of one inwardly self-occupied, abstractedly serious. "Thoughts on Education" (originally published at Florence) is a work by him pregnant with suggestions, informed by a spirit of earnest religion and intellectual morality, which might be placed in the same category with the magnificent treatise by Degerando—*Du Perfectionnement Moral*. Many years ago, when in political exile at Paris, Tommasio published an historic romance, "The Duke of Athens," founded on the story of the ferocious Walter de Brienne, and his fall after a brief tyranny of ten months at Florence, 1343—a single volume, containing some pictures powerfully worked up, but abounding in details of horror, scenes of popular vengeance by citizens turned into cannibals through the madness of justified hate, too absolutely revolting. A later work by him, of the imaginative class, is dedicated to higher moral objects—"Faith and Beauty." To the interests of philology he has rendered signal service by a publication now become quite classic throughout Italy—a "Dictionary of Italian Synonyms." Shortly after the late catastrophes of revolution, in which he had been himself a sufferer, he brought out, both in French and Italian, a volume written with eloquence often thrilling, "Rome and the World," in the object of showing that the annexation of temporal sovereignty to the Holy See was, and could only prove, a source of scandal, a cause of alienation from the Church. The protest thus ably put forward by a man of such large intellect deserved attention—the more so because not proceeding from a point of hostility against Catholicism (for Tommasio shows himself here, as in all his works, an earnest believer, accepting fully the teachings of the Church), but simply directed against the temporal circumstances of a hierarchy. His last published volume is a notice of the lately deceased philosopher Rosmini, originally brought out as a series in the *Revista*—not so much a biography as a collection of personal reminiscences, rather too diffuse, but full of feeling and reverential appreciation of that great man, whose private and public character he has evidently known in the most intimate manner.

Having addressed some questions by letter to the author of the "History of Venice under the Austrians"—a valuable record of a period least illustrated or known in the annals of the Adriatic City—I had the honour of a visit from him. The Marquis Fave-relli, who has employed the years of exile in the compilation of this work, is a man of middle age, with a stamp of thought and suffering on his countenance. Formerly in official employment at Milan, and native of Verona, he has been an emigrant since the revolutionary epoch, and now contributes to the *Opinione*, one of the liberal journals conducted with ability here. In his historical undertaking he had many difficulties to overcome; for, while ancient

records may (he informed me) be easily consulted in the archives of Venice, those relating to Austrian rule are of most difficult access. Publications of secret papers, drawn from the police arcanas during the vicissitudes of 1848, have revealed what that Government never would have conceded to the claims of the historian; and, for the rest, personal recollections, or those of testimonies to events of remoter date, supplied Peverelli with the material requisite for his work. He is now engaged on a translation, the appearance of which cannot fail to excite attention here—indeed throughout Italy—the “History of the Nineteenth Century,” by Ger-
vinus.

Italian literature has certainly proved sterile in the field of romance, compared with its splendid fruitfulness in other walks. Yet the events of late years have, naturally enough, suggested to many the idea of dressing history in the garb most attractive to imagination, and the political novel has become a phenomenon less rare in recent than in any former periods of this literature's progress. A talented Jesuit was the first to avail himself of the happy occasion, and the *Jew of Verona*, by Padre Bresciani, remains first in the catalogue of romantico-historic illustrations,

to Italian history in 1848-9, however open to objection for one-sided views and ultra-Conservatism. *Maria da Brescia*, an episode of the Lombardic Revolution, by Costanzo Ferrari (an emigrant here, native of that city), is inferior in literary merit, variety of incident, and vividness of description to the former; but still an interesting record, with many details that might never have found their way into the pages of more formalised history. It describes struggles in which the cruelty of the Austrians is represented as so atrocious that, unless authoritative contradiction ensues, this indignant but artless evidence, from one in many instances I believe an eye-witness, must remain in its validity, to impress a “damning spot” on Imperial annals. The taking of Brescia, 1st April 1849, by the troops of Haynau, is narrated with circumstances of horror disgraceful to humanity. The expedition into the Tyrol, aimed to cut off the retreat of the Austrians, when attacked by the Piedmontese on the Mincio, and to raise a counter-insurrection among the natives of those parts, forms an interesting episode; and we have here announced the singular fact that, as early as the summer of 1848, the whole Italian army in the field was reduced to 50,000, already exhausted by three

months' service, whilst it was shown by the journals of Turin that 100,000 was the force necessary for any fair prospect of success. The letter to the author, in an appendix, giving a sketch of the origin and progress of Carbonarism, is one of the most valuable portions of these volumes' contents. No inferior interest attaches to a series of publications, unpretending in form, but not without a character of fervid originality, *Italy and the People during the years 1848-49-50*, appearing in parts, at a very low price, designed to present the events of that period in the colouring that most fascinates and enlists sympathies for the revolutionary cause. One of these tales before me, the whole included in a single fascicolo, styled *The Justice of the People*, is an episode of the insurrection at Palermo, presented in a manner effective, though of little literary merit, and as to morality rather dangerous: crime is described in these pages self-justified by wrong—the impulses of political passion as those of patriotism exalted into religion. Another class of novels has lately become prominent in Turin, directed to sectarian objects, and only, I understand, interesting to a certain party, *Gianovale*, or *the Vaudois of Piedmont*; *Lucilla*, or *the Reading of the Bible*, &c.

C. J. H.

SCIENCE, ART, MUSIC, THE DRAMA, &c.

SCIENCE AND INVENTIONS.

THE FORTNIGHT.

At a time when our resources are being brought fully to the test by the actual existence and probable duration of a war, a paper on the subject of “Our National Strength” in the *Statistical Journal*, by Mr. J. Yeats, gives some interesting and valuable information. Taking the area of Great Britain as unity, France and Spain are twice as large; Turkey in Europe the same, in Asia four times the size; Austria is twice; Norway and Sweden four times; while Russia in Europe is seventeen times, and in Asia forty-five times as large. With reference to our colonies, Canada is more than double the size; British India is six and a half times, the Australian colonies eleven times, and the Hudson's Bay territory twenty-six times as large. As regards population, Belgium has 382 inhabitants to the square; England, 337; Saxony, 328; Holland, 242; Germany and Prussia, 188; France, 171; Austria, 145; Spain, 81; Turkey, 71; Russia, 27; Norway and Sweden, only 16. The total population of the United Kingdom is 27,637,761. Of this Great Britain has 21,121,967, having, during the last 50 years, made an addition of upwards of 10,000,000 to her people. As to the increase of wealth during the same period, while the population has thus been doubled, the value of capital at 3 per cent. compound interest has quadrupled. “Thus the means of subsistence have increased faster than the numbers of the people.” The whole wealth of England, approximately estimated, is 3,700,000,000*l.*, besides about 6,000,000*l.* bullion, copper, bank notes, &c. &c. This amazing sum forms our capital in trade. Besides, there is an enormous sum in what may be called unproductive property, such as waste land, public buildings of all kinds, dock-yards, ships of war, &c., estimated as equal to the National Debt of 760 millions, which it must be remembered is not a debt to foreigners, but to Englishmen. So that England has maintained all her inhabitants, supported all her wars, repaired all her disasters, and after all has a clear property of three billions seven hundred and sixty millions, which large sum is the result of labour. The number of the population above twenty exceeds the number under that age by 2,068,782; while the total number of males of the soldier's age, that is between twenty and forty, in 1851 was 3,193,496. Under any circumstances, then, we need not be under any apprehension that with such a capital our pecuniary resources will fail, or that we shall be unable to supply a sufficient number of men for the war, should the contest be prolonged by the obstinacy of the enemy.

A paper on the Meteorology of England and Scotland during the quarter ended June 30th, 1855, shows fully the rigours of the last spring. The cold set in on January 10th, and continued with little intermission until June 26th. April was cold, May severe. On the night common to May 4 and 5 the reading was 10 to 11 degrees below freezing point. A thermometer exposed to the sky at Greenwich was 12° 8', the lowest on record at this season of the year. The temperature of the month was 40° 5 below its average, and was the coldest May since 1837. June was cold to the 26th, and on the 21st, the day of the Solstice, the temperature of vegetation was from 5° to 6° below that of the freezing point of water.

Mr. James Nasmyth has thrown out to the Astronomical Society the following suggestions on the origin of the rotatory motion of the celestial bodies, and the spiral forms of the Nebulae. “The endeavour

to get at the reason why water in a basin acquires a rotatory motion when a portion of it is allowed to escape through a hole at the bottom first originated the suggestion. Assuming the particles of a nebulous mass just summoned into existence by the fiat of the Creator, the law of gravitation co-existing, every particle throughout the entire mass would tend to, and converge towards a common centre of gravity. Now the inevitable consequence of this convergence would be, from the physical impossibility that all particles could converge equally from all parts, that rotation would ensue; and let the intensity be ever so slight, the nucleus would continue to revolve, and all particles attracted to it would do so in directions tangential to the surface, and not diametrically towards the centre, until the entire nebulous mass was affected with rotation, which would then assume “its inherent normal condition”—namely, spirality,” which is *actually* the aspect of the nebulae revealed by Lord Rosse's telescope. “And by following up the same train of reasoning we may catch a glimpse of the primeval cause of the rotation of every body throughout the regions of space.”

Many attempts have been of late made to supersede the old elliptical form of spring. Mr. J. Baillie, locomotive superintendent of the Central Hungarian Railway, has invented a volute spring, consisting “of a single plate of steel wound spirally in a conical shape, sustaining pressure and deflection in reference to its breadth instead of thickness, and constructed of thicker and deeper plates, according to the increased strength desired.” The effect attained by this form of applying steel to resist pressure was found to be such, that equal loads were sustained by one-third the weight necessary for elliptical springs of like capabilities and power. Experience had proved the uselessness of caoutchouc and other materials as substitutes for steel; and the elliptical form had many disadvantages, which were obviated by the direct action, the compactness, and the elasticity of the volute. The saving of expense, too, was not in first cost only, but in repairs, owing to its simple construction, and also much iron work was saved. The subject was lately brought before the Institution of Civil Engineers, when the applicability of this volute spring for safety-valves was proved. Mr. Baillie having thus tested this new system with the ordinary method. A safety-valve, 12 inches in diameter, held down by seven volute springs, was adapted to a locomotive boiler on which was an ordinary valve, 3.6 inches in diameter. The two valves were weighted to a pressure of 64 lbs. per square inch. On fastening the large valve down, in four minutes the pressure of steam was 105 lbs., and the small valve had risen 1-12th of an inch, the steam being generated faster than it could be discharged. The large valve was then set free, and the small one screwed down; in four minutes the pressure measured 76 lbs., or only 12 lbs. to the square inch, nor could it be raised beyond, although the fire was urged for half an hour. The experiment was considered highly satisfactory.

At the Geological Society some points in connexion with the Artesian well now boring through the chalk at Kentish Town were brought forward by Mr. Joseph Prestwich, jun. The boring for the well had pierced the following succession of beds:—“London clay 236 feet; Woolwich and Reading series, 61½ feet; Thanet sands, 27 feet; middle chalk, 24½ feet; lower chalk, 227½ feet; chalk marl, 172 feet; upper greensand, 59 feet; gault, 85 feet; and then 176½ feet of a series of red clays, with intercalated sandstones and grit—altogether amounting to 1290 feet.” Some deviations from the usual forms of the lower series had occurred, and the probability of obtaining a supply of water by

deeper boring depended now whether these deviations would be again succeeded by the usual relations of the lower series, or put on a new character altogether—a matter of great importance in the solution of this practical difficulty.

Some important and interesting information has been lately promulgated with reference to the condition of Melbourne, and the Colony of Victoria. On the 1st of January, 1855, the total population was 273,792. Of these, there were in the town of Melbourne, 32,134 males, and 21,096 females, and at the gold-diggings 52,542 males, and 14,512 females, a very serious disproportion. Up to the end of August this year, the quantity of gold raised was 1,141,144 oz. received by escort, and 1,389,568 oz. by shipment, against 964,430 oz. by escort, and 1,336,509 by shipment during the same period of 1854. This increase is due to the working of quartz reefs, and the use of machinery. The total value of imports in the second quarter of 1854, was 3,252,884*l.*; during the same period this year it was 2,027,739*l.*, while the exports have greatly increased, having been valued up to August this year at 7,352,224*l.*, an increase of 1,236,595*l.*, from the corresponding period last year. The feverish excitement which followed the discovery of gold is subsiding, the import of intoxicating liquors diminishing, and the colony begins to show hopeful signs of improvement.

A letter addressed by Mr. Richardson, of Leeds, to the Merchants and Manufacturers of England and France, states the following as the direct advantages of the ship canal between the Danube and the Black Sea:—It would shorten the voyage of the river by 200 miles, and so far diminish the risks and dangers of the passage; the harassing quarantine regulations would be evaded; and the traffic of many thousands of miles of the Danube and its tributary streams would be released. Besides, being within the Turkish territory, only England, France, and Turkey would have to be consulted, and its construction would necessarily tend to simplify any discussions upon the proposals of peace.

A very curious phenomenon has taken place in respect to the fall of all the rivers rising in or beyond the Himalaya range, from the middle of August to the first week in September. The Chenab fell very low—the canals were dried up, and irrigation ceased. The Indus fell lower than the cold weather level. It has been suggested that this remarkable circumstance is owing to some volcanic agency.

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

- December 17. London Institution. 7 p.m.—Mr. Charles Cowden Clarke, “On the Genius and Comedies of Molière.”
“ 17. Architects. 8 p.m.—Mr. Edward I'Anson, “On some French Chateaux of the Age of Francis the First.”
“ 17. Chemical. 8 p.m.
“ 17. Statistical. 8 p.m.—Dr. W. A. Guy, “On the Nature and Extent of the Benefits Conferred by Hospitals on the Working Classes and the Poor.”
“ 18. Civil Engineers. 8 p.m.—Annual General Meeting.
“ 18. Linnean. 8 p.m.
“ 18. Pathological. 8 p.m.
“ 19. Society of Arts. 8 p.m.—Mr. J. Kenyon Blackwell, “The Present Position of the Iron Industry of Great Britain, with Reference to that of other Countries.”
“ 19. Geological. 8 p.m.—1. Mr. P. J. Martin, “On some of the Geological Features of the Country between the South Downs and the Sea.” 2. Prof. Owen, “On the Remains of the Musk Ox (*Bubalus Moschatus*) from the Gravel, near Maidenhead, Berkshire.”

- December 20. Antiquaries. 8 p.m.
 " 20. Royal. 8½ p.m.
 " 21. Philological. 8 p.m.
 " 28. Society of Arts. 8 p.m.—*Extra-Ordinary*.
 Renewed Discussion on Mr. Bailey Denton's
 Paper, "On the Under-drainage of Land in
 Great Britain."
 " 22. London Institution. 3 p.m.—Mr. T. A. Malone,
 "On the Elementary Principles of Vege-
 table and Animal Chemistry."
 " 22. Medical. 8 p.m.
 " 27. Numismatic. 7 p.m.
 " 28. Microscopical. 8 p.m.
 " 31. Institute of Actuaries. 9 p.m.

SALUTARY SENTENCES.

1. Herder wrote two volumes of criticism on Kant. The remarks and speculations which the work contains profound Germany affects to think lightly of; but they seem to me in general shrewd, solid, and just. Herder revered Kant's character and admired his genius: I believe he had attended Kant's classes, and was personally acquainted with him. But neither his regard for the friend nor his veneration for the man could check his honest utterances touching some radical defects in Kant's philosophical system. Kant is perhaps to be viewed as a great revolutionist in philosophy rather than as a great philosopher. Recommending Herder's despised book to those who care for metaphysical subjects, I would venture to suggest that the highest merit which has been claimed for Kant vanishes, when examined, into no merit at all. He is supposed to have established on a basis of impregnable certainty a few foremost religious and moral truths. Such truths, when left to the simple guardianship of men's natural instincts, are unassailable. They, therefore, need the potency of no logician's pleadings. But, granting that Kant had armed them with a logical confirmation which no thinker or writer before him had been able to give, that confirmation is of no value in a living universe, so different from the universe of cobwebs and phantoms in which Kant dwelt. Admitting whatever Kant wishes to prove, still it is proved only in the cold and shadowy world of Kant's brain, and has no relation to, no bearing on, my yearnings, my wants, my doubts, my sorrows as a human being. To deduce necessity from nature, or, rather, to consider nature and necessity as one, is sublime and consoling. But to posit necessity, and then attempt to harmonise the deductions from necessity with certain natural facts, or more truly with the solitary scholar's dream of those facts, may seem a grand logical and metaphysical achievement, but is really nothing but a piece of legerdemain, and is utterly useless to our race. In his exclusively metaphysical books perhaps Fichte rushed into still madder extravagances than Kant; but he has the advantage over Kant of having written other works eloquent, prophetic, powerful, and offering divine food to the heart of humanity.

2. Pons Augustin Alletz, born at Montpellier in 1703, and who died at Paris on the 7th March 1785, wrote a great number of works. What is amusing is that, in the list of them given in a French biographical dictionary, the "History of the Popes" occurs immediately before the "History of Monkeys." First the foxes, then the apes!

3. Francis Albertini, an Italian Jesuit, who died in 1619, published a Latin work, in which he maintains that the lower animals have, like men, their guardian angels. The tolerance of the English for blockheads and stupid corporations seems to confirm the opinion.

4. In the morning the sun strikes us as the giver of light; at noon, as the giver of heat; and in the evening as the giver of colour. Thus, happy the man on whom God first bestows wisdom, then moral strength, then an opulence of religious insight into the manifold beauties of the universe.

5. Bigotry in England, though often intense and bitter enough, is a conservative habit—a partisan fury, and less than among any other people a religious hate. There has never, therefore, been among the English, as among the Spaniards, an exclusively theological persecution, which implies a natural cruelty on the part of the persecutor. And the English are naturally the humanest, as the Spaniards are naturally the most cruel, of men.

6. The Germans have gained great credit for the accuracy of statement which is supposed to distinguish their literary productions, and they are contrasted on this point with the French, who are notoriously inaccurate. But, from my own experience, I have by no means found the praise deserved. More pedant than commentator, more commentator than compiler, more compiler than critic, and with an indolent conscience which adapts itself to anything, your German is ambitious to heap a huge and miscellaneous mass of facts or fictions together, rather than nicely to sever the true from the false. Accuracy does not depend alone or chiefly on the amount of our learning or of our critical acumen: it is in the main a moral quality. The English, therefore, as more veracious than either French or Germans, are, to the extent of their superior veracity, more accurate. The business habits of the English, also, must be a powerful aid in this matter to their veracity—that attribute

which as long as it retains our nation will be invincible.

7. God has given thee an abiding place, thou sayest, in the midst of pestilential swamps. If thou hast courage to banish, by persevering toil, the putrid waters, the swamps will change into fertile and beautiful fields, the deadly fever will depart, and thou wilt rejoice as a strong man in thy health. But, moreover, the curtain of vapour which was ever around thee will be rent asunder, and night after night thy eye will be gladdened and taught by the glory of the stars.

8. To him nothing is possible who is always dreaming of his past possibilities.

9. By thy ability to lose must thy genius, by thy ability to gain must thy valour, be measured.

10. Speak evil of dignities? Yes; but does not *dignus* mean worthy? Not even the worst, the most envious man is inclined to speak evil of dignities when given to the most worthy; and, when given to the most unworthy, they are, of course, no longer dignities.

11. If ever a comprehensive history of religious orders were to be written, it would naturally fall into four periods, to be classified as follows: First, the solitary; secondly, the community; thirdly, social action; fourthly, political action. The first would extend from the time of Christ to Saint Antony; the second from him to the origin of the mendicant orders; the third, from the rise of these to the birth of Jesuitism; the fourth, from that time to this.

12. More than once it has been stated that Christianity never spread East, nor Mahometanism West; yet how near was the birthplace of the one to the birthplace of the other! One sufficing reason why Mahometanism did not travel westward is that Christianity, on the downfall of Paganism, had seized as its own the western world, and had appropriated the heritage which Greek culture and Roman force had left to mankind. Mahometanism would have had three things to conquer: the empire of a new and fruitful idea; the civilisation which Rome had, by its victories, its laws, and its language, planted; and the individuality of the barbarian. Allowing, also, that Christianity is a more catholic doctrine than Mahometanism, to that extent it is a less absolute doctrine, and it is only by the absolute politically, religiously, and socially, that the East has ever been vanquished. The more of catholicity you have, the more you have of compromise. But compromise, so dear to our modern communities, is exactly what an Oriental can neither understand nor tolerate. He yielded to the Koran because it was so fanatically uncompromising, trampled on all eclecticism, and allowed nothing to live but itself. In every future, as in every past revolution, it will be found that the West always clings to compromise, while the East demands the absolute.

13. In comparing the statuesque and the pictorial we may find something of pregnant truth in a remark by Herder, that the great master-pieces of sculpture, especially of ancient sculpture, seem to grow before us. By this very peculiarity, even if they did not satisfy our most ardent yearning for the Beautiful, they carry us into the depths of the Ideal and the Divine. Whereas the greatest master-pieces of painting, however suggestive, have not this peculiarity of apparent growth, seldom open thus any path into the Ideal and the Divine, and their suggestiveness consists mainly in recalling those warmest, most lavish forms of life which we have in bygone days encountered. The moral and the religious influence of the statuesque must therefore be—æsthetic considerations apart—of a far more permanent, as it is of far more exalting kind than that of the pictorial. In any future attempts, therefore, at national culture in England, this tendency of sculpture to move by slow and holy steps into the Infinite as we gaze should not offer its guidance in vain. The mere teaching of idealism in words is generally barren, and may even be pernicious, for it springs from and corresponds to no reality, and bewilders and discourages by its vagueness. But to behold a Divinity, a Jupiter, an Apollo, a Minerva, expanding and melting each moment more magnificently and miraculously into the godlike transmutates us as effectually as our herculean labours and combats into the daring athletes of our sublimest dreams.

14. That chronic anarchy in which the English delight, and which is their ideal of political and social existence, would not be complete enough to satisfy the English taste if it did not extend to our literature. In other lands literature approximates more or less to a commonwealth, and it is as the servant and soldier of that commonwealth, no less than as the exponent of his own special idea, that the scholar earnestly offers himself to his countrymen. But here, where unlimited freedom is considered a substitute for every other advantage, as if the barren air could compensate for the want of food, and heat, and growth, and life, there is a beautiful development of that chaotic propensity which is mistaken for independence. Whenever an age is unbouededly rich, fecund, and vigorous, this sort of ochlocracy is marked by the Titanic culmination of many a noble and gifted soul. But whenever a community pursues its commonplace path, this disorganization of literature is a signal curse. As long as that stupendous

upheaval resulting from the discovery of America and from the Reformation was energetically and fruitfully felt, it was perhaps well for English literature that it wrestled slowly into shape, a huge elemental and inorganic force, with a mighty Shakspeare and a mighty Bacon half decorating, half dominating the turmoil. When, however, the romance of the new regions beyond the western waves had died, and when the Reformation had lost its vital pith, and had withered and hardened into a score of formulas that offered nutrition to no part of man's nature, it was striking the English mind with impotence, it was condemning it to sterility, it was making all culture impossible, to leave literature to the wildest of its wayward impulses. Who fought better than the Saracens while yet panopied by the fervours which the gleam of their prophet's face had kindled in their breasts? Who fought worse, when instead of conquering flame there was only leaden tradition? And may not the same thing be said of the Turks? But is this an argument for the neglect of discipline? Assuredly not. Fire is its own law as it is its own life. Send forth the fire in one swift devouring mass, and it will neither heed your counsel nor heed your guidance. But when the fire has burned itself out and has done its work, all the more quickly and effectually from being its own inspiring demon, its own resistless doom, how silly to sit down beside the black and blasted paths and say—Behold how strong a thing is fire, let us trust in it evermore, disdaining all slower agencies! The undisciplined Saracen, the undisciplined Turk, was one blaze of miracle for a season. While this season lasted discipline would have weakened, checked, harassed him. But, when it ceased, he should have diligently set about acquiring discipline, and thus saved himself innumerable defeats. Now what to the Saracen, to the Turk, has been in arms the want of discipline, the want of organisation in our literature has been to us. It has produced a decided inferiority, when with faculties harmoniously unfolded and harmoniously operating, just as decided would the superiority have been.

15. The Emperor Sigmund said that he who cannot leap over a thing must crawl under it. How well is a wise boldness taught in these words, and how much our English statesmen need the lesson. Under how many things they have to crawl for want of courage to spring over them!

AURELIUS ARPIMONT.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL SCIENCE.

THE *Athénæum Français* gives us a copy of a kind of *procès-verbal* of the excavations at Kertch, in 1888, to which the recent destruction or dispersion of the antiquities of the Kertch Museum gives especial interest. The excavations were commenced at the top of the hill known by the name of the Mountain of Mithridates, where, according to Strabo, the ancient Panticapæum was situated. The director of the Museum at Kertch, when visiting these works, had remarked in the neighbourhood a number of large stones regularly placed. He caused the earth which partly covered them to be removed, and under one of them there were found thirty coins of different kings of the Bosphorus, all in perfect preservation. Among those of Sauromates II. (Tiberius Julius), was one whose type is different from the coins of this king which have previously been found. On the obverse is the bust of the king turned to the left, not to the right. On the reverse is a great gate placed between two towers; at the foot of the work is chained a warrior in Scythian costume; on the same side are the branches of a tree, whose trunk is concealed by the tower; and below the letters M.H., which are found upon the greater number of the coins of the kings of the Bosphorus. Whilst these discoveries were made researches were carried on in the environs of the town. Several tumuli were excavated; four of them concealed tombs which were enriched with objects of interest. One of these tombs was that of a warrior; his armour was composed of scales of brass fastened upon a vest of hide; his sword still remained, and a great number of arrows of different shapes. Upon the handle of an amphora placed at the head of the skeleton was inscribed, in Greek characters, *Labrodamos*. Beside this vase was one of those little utensils known under the name of *capeduncula*, which were used in the sacrifices. Another amphora of clay was placed at the feet of the warrior, upon whose handle was the inscription *Labraion*. Notwithstanding their antiquity, the casque and the greaves were well preserved. Judging from their form, they appeared to be of the most remote date. The casque, garnished with many metal points, was of the greater interest, because even in the richest museums there are only a very limited number of armours of this kind. The greaves were distinguished from others by a sufficiently remarkable peculiarity; ordinarily these pieces of armour of thin brass plate have a lining of leather, and the holes which are formed above the knee lead to the belief that they were fastened to the leg by the aid of straps, also of leather. Those which were found in this tomb were enriched over the knee with ornaments in relief; there are no holes, but the lining is so flexible that it could easily be folded round the leg.

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In another tomb was found a vase ornamented with a painting, red upon a black ground, representing a winged genius on horseback whom a woman appears to be addressing, making a gesture with her right hand. But this vase is not so worthy of attention as a little statue of clay placed beside it. It is the image of a woman, holding with the left hand a little boy, near whom is an overturned basket, from which flowers and fruits are escaping. On one side is a dog, on the other a cock. It is supposed that this tomb contains the ashes of a child. In the third tomb lay the skeleton of a woman, lying upon a bed of marine plants. Her brow was encircled by a light garland of gold leaves, whose form was in imitation of the leaves of the ash. The neck was ornamented with a collar of pearls. Two talismans, the figures of a lion and a scarabæus, were placed upon the breast. The index finger of the right hand still preserved a gold ring set with a Syrian garnet, upon which was engraved a female head. Around this skeleton, under the fragments of many broken vases of clay, were found buried eight plates of gold, round and convex, which probably served to ornament the top of the robe; they are adorned with male and female masks in relief. There was found also a little ivory vase, whose lid was sculptured with a grotesque man's head. All these objects have a striking analogy to those which have been discovered from time to time in the tombs of Greece, especially in the neighbourhood of Agrigento. The fourth tomb contained an ivory spindle and two little vases, one of which is of crystal, and the other, of clay, shaped like an amphora, is adorned with brilliant colours. Some of these objects were broken by the Tartars (says the *Athénæum Français*), before it was possible to arrest the destruction of the Museum of Kertch; many have been conveyed to France in the *Mégère*, and are destined to enrich the museum of the Louvre. Some of the coins have found their way to England, and are in possession of Mr. Stebbing and Mr. Coxwell, of Southampton.

ART AND ARTISTS.

Mr. Thomas Hatton's excellent elementary work for the student of landscape painting has been completed (*Water-colour without a Master*: Reeve and Son, Cheapside). In its perfected form it is what the author designed it to be: a handbook for copying water-colour drawings—an assistant to the student in recognising nature, and in employing his knowledge out of doors—and a guide to perfecting his finished picture from the rough sketch. The work contains upwards of two hundred examples of separate objects in landscape. These are shown under various tints, and afterwards combined into pictures. The student is insensibly led onward by easy steps to the formation of a complete landscape, out of the buildings, trees, cattle, skies, &c., which he copies in successive lessons. This is at once a cheap and a trustworthy instructor.

TALK OF THE STUDIOS.

Sir Charles Eastlake has bought for the National Gallery a large picture by Paul Veronese, said to have been formerly in the Church of St. Silvestro, in Venice. The subject is "The Adoration of the Magi;" a reduced copy of part of it, attributed to Carlo Cagliari, is at Hampton Court. The date on the St. Silvestro picture is 1573, when the artist was about forty-five. Among the plans and notices deposited at the Private Bill-office of the House of Commons, for Bills to be brought before Parliament next session, is one for a large hotel, on the plan of the Hotel du Louvre, Rue de Rivoli, Paris, to be built on the site of the National Gallery (a committee of the House of Commons having recommended the removal of the Gallery), and also on the ground in the rear, now chiefly occupied by the barrack-yard and St. Martin's workhouse. Mr. John F. Lewis has been elected to the office of President of the Water-Colour Society. His competitor was Mr. Taylor, and the scrutiny showed eleven votes for Mr. Lewis against six for Mr. Taylor. Six commissions for marble figures illustrating passages in our poetical literature have been given to English sculptors by the authorities at the Mansion-house; namely, to Messrs. Baily, Wyon, Theed, Foley, Weeks, and Durham. This is the second series. The six subjects already completed, or in a forward state, were entrusted to Messrs. Baily, Marshall, Thrupp, McDowall, Foley, and Lough. Of this series, Messrs. Baily and Foley have been selected by the Corporation for the second group. The price of each statue is 700*l*.—The gold medal awarded by the commissioners of the *Exposition Universelle* to the city of Glasgow is of pure gold, fully three and a half inches in diameter, of proportionate thickness, and will weigh, we think, nearly a quarter of a pound. On the one side is a large and beautifully executed head of the Emperor, inscribed "Napoleon III., Empereur." The other side of the outer circle presents a range of twenty shields, representing the various

nations which have contributed to the Exposition. Below are the words "Paris, 1855," and a blank space for the insertion of the name of the city of Glasgow. The inner circle contains various devices, beautifully grouped, including the Imperial Crown, the Sceptre, the Gallic Eagle, and the Cross of the Legion of Honour, inscribed with the words—"Exposition Universelle—Agriculture, Industrie, Beaux Arts."—A monument has been erected in the Italian church at Vienna, to the poet Metastasio. It is the church in which Metastasio lies buried.

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS.

NEW MUSIC.

The Carnival of Venice. By ANTONIO MINASI. London: T. Prowse.

THE Carnival of Venice (Paganini's favourite subject for the display of his magical powers over a single string) has been chosen by composers new and old as the theme for variations, both for the pianoforte and harp. For these instruments it has been successfully treated; but hitherto we have not heard of its having been well adapted to the flute. Minasi's arrangement, however, promises to supply what was wanted. It is published with accompaniments for the pianoforte, and to the practised performer will furnish an excellent study, as well as a good subject for the display of his powers. The variations are graceful and fantastic. To the amateur as well as the professional flutist, Minasi's composition will prove a desirable acquisition.

England's Welcome to Sardinia's King. Words by CHARLES SWAIN. Music by AUGUST MANNS. London: Gustav Scheurman.

WE cannot say much in favour of this composition of the new Master of the Crystal Palace Band. It is neither original nor select, but a ponderous production, not even lightened by the words to which the music is attached. If, however, it is sung with vigour, it may tell with the public, especially with a brass band accompaniment.

Ring out Wild Bells: a Song of the New Year. Written by ALFRED TENNYSON. Composed by ELLEN ATKINSON. London: Chappell.

THE music to these words ought to be good; and we may give our tribute of praise to this composition. Miss Atkinson seems imbued with a musical vein, and has produced a pleasing and flowing melody.

The Blind Girl's Thoughts of Heaven. Song composed by ELLEN ATKINSON. London: Chappell.

THERE is a pretty sentiment conveyed in the words, which are evidently written by one not versed in rhyme, for the rhythm here and there halts. The music is scarcely in accordance with the subject: a light tripping air is not the best adapted to words of a sacred character. Nor does the music flow softly on; there is, however, quite merit enough to please generally.

The Footsteps of Angels. Written by LONGFELLOW. Composed by ELLEN ATKINSON. London: Chappell.

WE would strongly recommend to this young lady, who appears to possess a musical vein, studiously to eschew all extraneous keys if she wishes to gain public favour, but especially one of six flats. There is no meaning in selecting such a key; and amateurs, very rightly, will not be bored in reading it, for, to most, it would be like offering a pretty poem written in the hieroglyphics that have occasionally figured in or disfigured, the advertising columns of the *Times*.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC CHIT CHAT.

AN American journal states that "the States" are expecting a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves, Mr. and Mrs. Weiss, and other vocalists, so as to form a complete opera company.—The Theatre Royal, Exeter, long considered as one of the leading provincial nurseries of the drama, and with which the elder Kean and Phelps were long associated, has recently been opened by a gentleman, who is laudably endeavouring to restore the theatre to its former prosperity, and has engaged a very excellent company in furtherance of his object. Amongst others, the local papers speak very highly of a Miss Emily Burdett, a young lady who has there made her first appearance on the stage, and has been very successful in the character of Pauline, in the *Lady of Lyons*; Julia, in the *Hunchback*; and Portia, in the *Merchant of Venice*. An Exeter paper, speaking of her performance in the latter character, predicts for her a high standing in the profession.—Madame Borghini-Mamo has been engaged at the Grand Opera of Paris.—Signor Mercadante has been engaged to write a new opera for the next year's Carnival at Naples.—The first number of a weekly journal, to be called *Revue Musicale et des Théâtres*, is to be published on New-year's-day next at St. Petersburg.

LITERARY NEWS.

It will be acceptable news to all readers (says the *Leader*) when they learn that Mrs. Gaskell has undertaken to write the "Life of Charlotte Brontë," that fervent genius too soon snatched from us. Jane Eyre deserved to fall into the hands of a woman; and what woman was better fitted for the task than Mary Barton? We understand that both father and husband have desired Mrs. Gaskell to execute this work, and have placed all materials at her disposal.—An Ultramontane journal, to resemble the *Univers* of Paris, is about to appear at Vienna.—The *Scottish Daily News*, a penny paper, which has been published for some months in Glasgow, expired on Saturday last, or rather dissolved into the arms of another penny contemporary called the *Glasgow Daily News*, having transferred any property and interest which it was possessed of to the latter paper. Glasgow has had five of these penny daily journals, and three of them are now no more. The proprietor of the *Sentinel*, a Chartist paper, who regarded the abolition of the stamp laws as the advent of a newspaper golden age, started the *Penny Daily Times*, which survived about a fortnight. The proprietor of the *Gazette* started a *Penny Daily Gazette*, but the trial of a month satisfied him that it was "no go." Now, the *Scottish Daily News* swells the roll of the deceased.

Mr. Joseph Guy, the author of the "English School Grammar," and of more than twenty other school-books, has at the age of seventy-two no resource for his maintenance than what the sympathy of the public may afford him. Under the impression that he had "done the State some service" by his efforts, however humble, to smooth the path of knowledge to the rising generation, he sent in a petition to the Earl of Aberdeen, when Prime Minister, in the hope of participating in the fund set apart by the nation for the benefit of distressed authors; but no answer was returned. He has recently petitioned Lord Palmerston to lay his case before her Majesty. His Lordship, however, gives him no hope, owing to the number of candidates for pensions and the limited amount of the fund at his disposal. An answer more favourable might have been anticipated considering Mr. Guy's age, his necessities, and his literary labours for the benefit of the youth of these kingdoms, and, it may be added, of our colonies also. Mr. Guy has for the last four years kept a school at 2, Hollis-place, but the income from the few scholars that attend it does not now even pay the rent; and a distraint is threatened on his goods, and which must take place in a few days if the rent cannot be made up. Nevertheless, with a little pecuniary assistance, he could still continue his school, which might serve him for the few years at most that he may require it. Any contributions will be most thankfully received and acknowledged, 2, Hollis-place, Camden New Town.—At the sale of autographs, last week, a letter of Marie Antoinette's sold very high. It is as follows, is written to Madame de Polignac, dated December 1791, and is interesting to those who like to study the courageous conduct of that "king-hearted woman," as Carlyle calls her, in the middle of the storm that was just about to break:—"Your two last letters reached me both at once, my dear heart; and I cannot resist answering them immediately, and telling you of my deep affection for you. Our good Lamballe, who seemed to be lying by to show in danger all her worth, is wellnigh ill at being unable to go out without hearing atrocities all around. For my part, I need not to stir, but enjoy such like as that without leaving the shadow of my roof. I have only to appear at a window! Now and then I discover faithful friends whom I knew not; but we have, in some of those who serve us, club-haunters who are traitors in disguise."—A plain but handsome monument has been erected in the cemetery of Kensal Green, to the memory of the late George Newport, the eminent naturalist and physiologist.—The veteran Béranger was present at the funeral of a popular composer, which took place on Tuesday, at Paris. The old poet looked healthy, despite his advanced age.—At an auction in New York, by Bangs, Brothers, and Co., an autograph letter of Geo. Washington sold for seventeen dollars; one of Benedict Arnold sold for sixteen dollars; one of Charles O'Connor, of New York, written some thirty years ago, was sold for six cents. A letter of Henry Clay was on the catalogue, but was withdrawn. Among some old books sold a few evenings since, by the same auctioneer, an old Bible, printed in 1492, in four folio volumes, black-letter, was sold at twenty dollars. The antiquaries of the Isle of Wight have obtained the consent of Lord Palmerston to the establishment of a local museum in Carisbrooke Castle.—The Lord Advocate of Scotland has agreed to bring in a Bill for the reform of the Scottish Universities next session of Parliament, provided that the various parties more immediately interested shall agree on the heads of a feasible and practical measure.—Dr. Luther, astronomer at the observatory of Bilk, near Düsseldorf, has discovered a hitherto unknown star in the constellation of Pisces. It is to bear the name of "T. Piscium." M. Perie, a French botanist, announces that he has discovered a common herb in France which resembles black tea in colour, aroma, and taste, and that it can be cultivated as a substitute for the Chinese plant.

DRAMA, PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS, &c.

OLYMPIC.—*Five Pounds Reward*, a Farce in one Act, adapted from the French.

THE preparations for the Christmas pantomime will render my office for the next fortnight almost a sinecure. Since the last impression only two novelties have appeared upon the stage, a farce at the Olympic and a five-act play at the Marylebone. I must confess that I have not yet seen the latter; and the former, being the merest trifle possible, requires no very careful analysis. *Five Pounds Reward* is an adaptation of *Montre Perdue*, a humorous exposition of the terrors of a husband who loses his watch under circumstances which, for a husband, must certainly be considered suspicious. He calls upon a married lady, an acquaintance of his bachelorhood, and leaves his watch upon the table. Horror-stricken at the notion that the watch may fall into the hands of the husband of his fair acquaintance, poor Bostlethwaite (Mr. Robson) gives himself up for lost, refuses to see visitors, and dreads the approach of a stranger. The affectionate solicitude of his wife (Mrs. Marston), and her anxiety to discover the cause of his uneasiness, give an interest to the plot; which, by the ingenuity of the fair acquaintance (who is a watchmaker's wife, and who persuades her husband that the watch has been left in the way of business), terminates happily. As a vehicle for some fine acting on the part of Mr. Robson, whose alternations from elation to despair are admirable, this little trifle has been well received.

PROFESSOR ANDERSON'S HUNDRETH NIGHT.—On Tuesday evening, the great Wizard of the North attained the hundredth night of his present season at the Lyceum; and as that career of success is fast drawing to its close, he thought it fit to celebrate it by an entertainment of more than ordinary magnificence. From an early hour of the evening the portico of the Lyceum presented a spectacle which powerfully attracted the passers-by. In addition to the now well-known electric light, transparencies and gas-illuminations informed the public that the Wizard was about to celebrate his hundredth night; and these, taken in connection with a placard which has for some weeks past intimated that upon that occasion something was to happen, greatly stimulated the curiosity of the multitude. But neither illuminations nor placard were very definite in their information, for, like the wart upon King Cole's face, they

boded something would take place,
But not what that something would be.

To arrive at the truth, therefore, it was necessary to enter. And enter the multitude did—filling every nook and cranny of the little theatre, until it was literally and truly crammed to overflowing. Once arrived inside, the Wizard gave them but little opportunity to gape with weariness, for every demon (except the blue gentleman called *ennui*) seemed pressed into his service for that night. Articles disappeared and appeared again in the most surprising manner, and in the most unlooked-for places; handkerchiefs were torn up, and mended again in the most miraculous fashion; watches were fired from blunderbusses through men's heads, and neither head nor watch any the worse for the operation; pigeons flew out from empty boxes; and, from a portfolio of not immoderate dimensions, were produced several children, a live goose, a large trunk, not to mention an infinite variety of smaller articles; the bullet was caught in its flight from the gun; tables were rapped upon; and clairvoyance illustrated; in fact there was no department of jugglery—whether jugglery proper, or that which disguises itself beneath a scientific cloak—which was not thoroughly illustrated. To those who say that this is all humbug, we reply that we know it to be so, that Mr. Anderson confesses it to be so; and that the public finds it amusing to have their senses cheated in this clever manner. Well indeed would it be for them if they were cheated in no worse fashion. After all is said and done, Mr. Anderson cheats them at a cheaper rate than does the Chairman of a Railway Company, and amuses them much more during the operation. His season at the Lyceum has been most successful, and he has had the wit to stop short in the full tide of its success. This will make it all the easier to resume whenever he sees fit to do so. Meantime, we hope that new successes await him in his career at Covent Garden Theatre.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC.—This popular and fashionable entertainment (it is not often that an entertainment can be both) is once more open; and the crowds which nightly besiege the Egyptian Hall prove that Mr. Albert Smith has lost none of his hold upon the favour of the public. During the recess he has added to the Ascent of Mont Blanc a supplementary part, descriptive of the French Exhibition. Fresh illustrations, new songs, new anecdotes, and new acquaintances, give an air of novelty to the whole entertainment. Those who have never yet been (if there are any) must go now; and those who have already been must go again.

MADAME LIND'S CONCERTS AT EXETER HALL.—The reappearance of Madame Lind upon the scene of her former triumphs has been hailed with feelings of satisfaction by all true lovers of music. Jenny Lind, whose fame is really of English creation, is loved by

no one so well as the English, to whose national sympathies (call them prejudices if you will) she has managed to recommend herself, as well by her virtues as by her genius. On Monday night she sang *The Creation* in the great Concert-room at Exeter Hall, before a crowded and enthusiastic audience; on Monday next she is to sing the *Elliph*. After that, she will sing in Liverpool, whence she will return to London, and give a series of concerts at the Hanover-square Rooms. We would willingly have recorded these agreeable events without taking any exception to the conduct of those who have undertaken the commercial arrangement of these affairs; but that is out of our power. As the musical critic of the *Times* has declared, the public have been defrauded of their just rights by the greed of interested speculators. The Strand tradesmen, ever ready to speculate in anything, whether it to be a funeral or a concert, have purchased up the tickets of these oratorios, and are selling them again at a high premium. The consequence is that great injustice is done. Mr. Mitchell advertises his readiness to sell tickets to the public at a guinea apiece (a price high enough in all conscience); but when the public repairs to him, with their guineas in their hands, they are coolly informed that Mr. Mitchell has no more to sell: yet the very same tickets are being offered in the Strand at from thirty shillings to two sovereigns apiece. Friends of ours applied at Mr. Mitchell's last Monday for liberty to purchase tickets for the coming concert, but were informed that, although no tickets had then been issued, they were all *beapoken*. Surely Mr. Mitchell can do something to prevent this state of things. We do not accuse him for one moment of sharing in the plunder of those who step in between himself and the public; but he is certainly bound, if not for his own sake, at least out of justice to his customers, to devise some means of alleviating the evil.

JACQUES.

OBITUARY.

BALLINGALL, Sir George, M.D., Regius Professor of Military Surgery in Edinburgh University. He had been in weak health for a very considerable time, and died at his country seat, Altamont, near Blairgowrie.

BUNYAN, Robert, Esq., formerly coroner of Lincoln, whose death took place last week, was the last male descendant, in a direct line, of the famous John Bunyan, author of "Pilgrim's Progress." The following pedigree of the deceased gentleman establishes this interesting fact:—"John Bunyan was born in 1628, and died in 1688. He married his first wife, Mary, in 1646, and by her had issue: Thomas, the eldest son, born 1646, died 1718; his eldest son, John, was born 1670, and married in 1692, having issue—Robert, the eldest son, born 1693, married 1713. Robert (1st) had five children: John, the eldest, died soon after birth, and the second son, Robert, was born 1715, and died in 1794. Robert (2nd) had issue, Susannah, born 1743, died 1771; Robert (3rd), born 1745, died 1825; Henry, born 1748, died at Lincoln 1813; John, who died at Nottingham; and Samuel, who died at Wisbech. Robert (3rd) had issue—Elizabeth Bunyan, born 1769, died 1800; Robert (4th), born 1775, and now dead; Susannah, born 1773, died 1839." The late Mr. Bunyan had only one child, Elizabeth, who is the wife of T. M. Keyworth, Esq., of Lincoln.

LARDNER, Leopold James, of the Printed Book Department, British Museum. Mr. Lardner was one of the "Assistants" in that department; and his special province was to superintend the transcription of the Catalogue, all the entries for which were copied under his direction by a body of trained transcribers. Mr. Lardner was well acquainted with Greek and Latin, with Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese, and in a slighter degree with Danish; with the modern languages so well as to be frequently employed in executing translations from them for the Foreign Office. In addition to these, he spoke Dutch, French, and German not merely with the ordinary readiness and precision of a gentleman and a scholar, but with such entire fluency and fullness of idiom, and with such a perfect command of accent, that in each he was taken for a native. Much of this proficiency had been acquired abroad. Mr. Lardner was born in Holland, of English parents, in 1816.

MICKIEWICZ, Adam, a few days ago at Constantinople. This Polish poet was one of the most distinguished writers of the nineteenth century.

MONTGOMERY, Rev. Robert, at Brighton, author of "Omnipresence of the Deity" and "Satan."

ROTHSCHILD.—At Frankfurt, on the 6th inst., the eldest brother of the house of Rothschild, Baron Anselm von Rothschild is the third of the brothers Rothschild who has departed this life in this year; the *chef* of the house in Naples, Carl, and the *chef* of the house in Vienna, Solomon, having already died this year. Of the five brothers there remains now only James, the *chef* of the house in Paris. Baron Anselm was looked on as the founder of the great financial Rothschild power, and, though possessed of less cultivation and education than his brothers, was a decided genius in money matters: he died childless, and has left to the house a fortune of 30,000,000 guineas.

WORTLEY, Lady Emmeline Stuart. She was attacked with illness while journeying in the Holy Land, and died at Beyrout.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Adventures of the Caliph Haroun Alraschid, post 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl. Aristotle's Politics, English Notes by Congreve, M.A. 8vo. 16s. Aristotle's Politics, from Text of Bekker, with English Notes by Eaton, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl. Bede's (C.) Medley, illust. 12mo. 1s. swd. Bell's English Poets: Butler, Vol. III. fep. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl. Binney's Is it Possible to make the Best of both Worlds, 1s. 6d. Birk's (Rev. T. R.) Difficulties of Belief, cr. 8vo. 4s. 6d. cl.

Blakely's (J.) Theology of Invention, fep. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl. Bohn's Class. Lib.: Quintilian's Institutes of Oratory, Vol. I. 5s. cl.

Bohn's Stan. Lib.: Smyth's Hist. of French Revolution, Vol. II. 3s. 6d.

Brackenbury's Campaign in the Crimea, illus. 40 Plates, 21s. Chadwick's (S.) Poema, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.

Chambers's Digestion and its Derangements, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. Christian Melville, by Author of 'Mathew Paxton,' fep. 8vo. 5s.

Constable's Misc. of Foreign Lit.: About's Tolla, cr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Corner's Little Plays for Little Actors, 2nd Series, sq. 3s. 6d.

Curling's (H.) Nonpareil House, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d. cl. Excelsior, Vol. IV., cr. 8vo. 4s. cl.

First Sunday at Church, illust. 4to. 1s. swd. Forty Moral Lectures for the Young, by a Christian Minister, 4s.

Geddes's Greek Grammar for the Use of Schools and Colleges, 4s. cl.

Gill's (Rev. W.) Gems from the Coral Islands, post 8vo. 3s. 6d. Goldsmith's Traveller, illust. by D. Foster, cr. 8vo. 21s. cl. gilt.

Guthrie's Lit. and Scientific Register and Almanack, for '55, 3s. 6d.

Guthrie's (Rev. T.) Gospel in Ezekiel, post 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl. Hadden's Limited Liability Act, 1855, Notes, &c., cr. 8vo. 8s.

Hallam's Introduction to the Literature of Europe, Vol. I., 6s. cl.

Hare's (J. C.) Miscellaneous Pamphlets, 8vo. 12s. cl. Harry's New Kite, illust. 4to. 1s. swd.

Herbert's Poetical Works, illust. by D. Foster, 4to. 18s. cl. gilt. Hewett's (J.) Ancient Armour and Weapons, 8vo. 18s. cl.

History of England and France under the House of Lancaster, 15s.

Horsley's Cat. of Chymical Philosophy, illust. cr. 8vo. 6s. 6d. House of Helmore, a Family History, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.

Introductory Lessons on Morals, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl. Jack the Shepherd-Boy, illust. 4to. 1s. swd.

Jarman's Young Protestant, fep. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl. Jeanne de Vaudreuil; or, Reconciliation, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.

Kahn's Intern. Hist. of German Protestantism, by Meyer, 4s. 6d.

Kesteven's Manual of Domestic Practice of Medicine, 7s. 6d. cl. King Arthur's Alphabet, illust. sq. 1s. swd.

Lardner's Museum of Science and Art, Vol. VIII. fep. 1s. 6d. Lardner's Handbook of Natural Philosophy, Vol. II.: Hydrostatics, &c. 5s.

Lew's Christ is All: Exodus, fep. 8vo. 3s. cl. Lowth's (G. T.) Wanderer in Arabia, illust. 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s.

Macaulay's Hist. of England, Vols. III. and IV., 2 vols. 8vo. 36s. Maddox's Guide to Transactions in Government Funds, 8s. 6d.

Michod's (J.) Orthographic Aids, 8vo. 2s. cl. Morris's (Rev. A. G.) Words for the Heart and Life, post 8vo. 4s. 6d.

Murray's Brit. Class.: Byron's Poetical Works, Vol. III. 7s. 6d. Neilson's Mesmerism in relation to Health and Disease, 3s. 6d.

Nun's (Rev. T.) Sermons, chiefly Practical, edited by Hook, 6s. Oake's (R.) Essence of French Grammar, cr. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Ore from Precious Mines, illust. 32mo. 2s. 6d. cl. gilt.

Orr's Circle of the Sciences, Vol. V.: Geology, &c. cr. 8vo. 5s. 6d. cl.

Owen's (Mrs. O. F.) Spirit of the Holly, illust. small 4to. 3s. 6d. Parloe's Lady Arabella; or, Adventures of a Doll, illust. 2s. 6d.

Parlour Lib.: Smith's (H.) Brambletye House, fep. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Parmlister's Materials for Grammar of Modern English, 3s. 6d.

Pember's (E. H.) Maid of Messina, and other Poems, fep. 8vo. 6s. Pfeiffer's Second Journey Round the World, 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s.

Philosophy and Mirth United by Pen and Pencil, illust. 1s. 6d. Railway Lib.: Grey (Mrs.), The Duke, a Novel, fep. 8vo. 1s. 6d.

Reid's (Capt. M.) White Chief, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d. cl. Richmond's Dairyman's Daughter, illust. by Foster, post 8vo. 5s.

Sabbath Bells chimed by the Poets, illust. by Foster, imp. 8vo. 21s.

Shakespeare's Dramatic Works, Notes by Singer, 10 vols. 4l. 10s. Somerton (A.) Oeland, A Thread of Life, fep. 2s. 6d.

Stier's The Word of the Lord Jesus, Vol. II. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl. Stonehenge's Manual of British Rural Sports, 12mo. 10s. 6d.

Taylor's The Ika a Maui; New Zealand and its Inhabitants, illust. 16s.

Treasury of History and Biography, ed. by W. Anderson, 3s. Treasury of Pleasure Books for Young People, illust. 7s. 6d. cl.

Tweedie's (Rev. W. K.) Man and his Money, cr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl. Tyng's (S. H.) Rich Kinsman, fep. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.

Velasquez's (M.) Dict. of Spanish and English, 12mo. 10s. 6d. Ward's Autobiography of a Fugitive Negro, post 8vo. 6s. 6d. cl.

Whately (Archbishop) Selections from his Writings, fep. 8vo. 5s. cl.

White's (A.) Popular History of Birds, illust. sq. 10s. 6d. cl. Wigan's (A. C.) Great Wonders of the World, illust. sq. 3s. cl.

Wilson's (R. A.) Mexico and its Religion, illust. post 8vo. 7s. 6d. Wood's (N. A.) The Past Campaign, 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s. cl.

Wright's (Rev. James) Europe's Crisis, fep. 8vo. 5s. cl. Yapp's (G. W.) Duties on Imports into France, 8vo. 6s. cl.

THE POPULATION OF CHINA.—We may with tolerable safety estimate the present population of the Chinese empire as between 350,000,000 and 400,000,000 of human beings. The constant flow of emigration from China, contrasted with the complete absence of immigration into China, is striking evidence of the redundancy of the population; for though that emigration is almost wholly confined to two provinces—namely, Kwangtung and Fookien—representing together a population of probably from 34,000,000 to 35,000,000, I am disposed to think that a number nearer 3,000,000 than 2,000,000 from these provinces alone is located in foreign countries. In the kingdom of Siam it is estimated that there are at least 1,500,000 Chinese, of which 200,000 are in the capital (Bankok). They crowd all the islands of the Indian Archipelago. In Java, we know by a correct census, there are 136,000. Cochín China teems with Chinese. In this colony we are seldom without one, two, or three vessels taking Chinese emigrants to California and other places. Multitudes go to Australia, to the Philippines, to the Sandwich Islands, to the western coast of Central and Southern America; some have made their way to British India. The emigration to the British West Indies has been considerable—to the Havannah greater still. The annual arrivals in Singapore are estimated at an average of 10,000, and 2000 is the number that are said annually to return to China.—*Sir John Bowring.*

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WHEN REBELLION IS BETTER THAN OBEDIENCE.—I hear much of obedience, how that and the kindred virtues are prescribed and exemplified by Jesuitism; the truth of which and the merits of which far be it from me to deny. Obedience, a virtue universally forgotten in these days, will have to become universally known again. Obedience is good and indispensable; but if it be obedience to what is wrong and false—good heaven, there is no name for such a depth of human cowardice and calumny; spurned everlastingly by the gods. Loyalty? Will you be loyal to Beelzebub? Will you "make a covenant with Death and Hell?" I will not be loyal to Beelzebub; I will become a nomadic Choctaw rather, a barricading Sansculotte, a Conciliabulum-repealer; anything and everything is venial to that.—*Carlyle*.

CHINESE MUSIC.—Among the ancient Chinese, music was the expression of religious worship, paid to the Divinity. The ancient poets call music the echo of wisdom, the mistress and mother of virtue, the manifestation of the laws of heaven. Its purpose is to make known the *Chan-ty*, "the sovereign Lord, and to lead man toward him. And in one of their ancient books it is said: "Music is the expression of the union of earth and heaven. Music acts upon the interior of man, and brings it into connection with the spirit. Its principal end is to regulate the passions; it teaches fathers and children, princes and subjects, husbands and wives, their reciprocal duties. The sage finds in music the rules of his conduct." According to the school of Confucius, ceremonies and music are the most prompt and efficacious methods of reforming manners and rendering the state prosperous. "Under the first dynasties," says a famous Chinese moralist, "the Government had perfect unity, the ceremonies and music embraced the whole empire." The annals, and all ancient writings, agree in saying that music was, in the early ages, the object of the continual meditations of sages, and of the care of Government. After the first dynasties there came divisions into the Government, and the ceremonies and music became only an empty name, without reality. At the present time Chinese music, although it has a certain softness and melancholy in its tones, that please you at first, is so intolerably monotonous, that if prolonged it becomes exceedingly irritating to the nerves. They have no half steps in their scale; indeed, one might suppose they merely blew into their instruments, or twanged their strings at random, from the inspiration of the moment; however, it appears they have notes, and though their compositions are not of much scientific value, you do sometimes hear simple melodies in them, such as are heard in chants of savages, and which are more or less agreeable.

EDGE, Gun-maker, Russell-street, Stretford-road, Manchester (late of Ridge Field).

TO LOVERS OF FISH.—100 genuine YARMOUTH BLOATERS for 6s. Package included. These highly esteemed delicacies and cheap article of food, forwarded to all parts, on receipt of penny Postage Stamp, or Post-office order (preferred). Send full and plain directions, county and nearest station.

Address to THOMAS LETTIS, Jun., Fish-curer, Great Yarmouth. "This is the third season Mr. Lettis has supplied us with Yarmouth Bloaters, and we find the quality excellent.—J. Brashaw, house-steward, Blenheim-palace, Oct. 20, 1854." "Mr. Lettis, as soon as you send out your genuine Bloaters, I shall be glad to have a supply as usual; those I had last year gave great satisfaction.—A. F. Couroux, Ambassadors' Court, St. James's Palace, Oct. 1, 1855."

LOANS from 20l. to 1000l., at 5l. per cent. may be arranged for one, two, or three years.—NEW NATIONAL LIFE ASSURANCE and LOAN COMPANY, 43, Oxford-street, Bloomsbury. Office hours from 9 to 6 o'clock. THOMAS BOURNE, Resident Secretary.

LOMBARD ADVANCE FUND. Incorporated by Act of Parliament, 1833. Chief Office—43, QUEEN'S SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY, LONDON. Loans granted from 5l. to 1000l. on real and personal security. Good Bills discounted on moderate terms. Money advanced on Dock Warrants, Railway Shares, and all kinds of tangible securities. Debenture Notes issued, bearing for the ensuing year interest at 7 per cent. per annum. The public are requested to observe that this society combines in itself the elements (as also the profits) of Life Assurance, Loaning, and Banking; and is, therefore, enabled to deal liberally with its borrowers, and also to pay a large dividend to Shareholders and Depositors. Applications, if by letter, inclose six postage-stamps. Address, MR. CHARLES FRY, Secretary.

RUSSIAN BATH and MEDICO-GYMNASIUM. INSTITUTION, for the Cure of Disease.—For particulars apply to Mr. TOTTIS, 16 A, Old Cavendish-street.

INSANITY.—ABINGTON ABBEY RETREAT. near Northampton.—This Establishment is conducted by Dr. PRICHARD, formerly Medical Superintendent of the Glasgow Royal Asylum, and is intended for the reception of Patients of both sexes labouring under Mental Derangement. Dr. PRICHARD is resident.

MEDICAL REFORM MOVEMENT.—Sufferers from Indigestion, and its train of kindred disorders, are invited to send their address to the Secretary of the Nottingham Medical Reform Association, who will forward by return of post the singularly successful Botanic Remedy recently discovered by Professor Webster (son of the distinguished Statesman), of Philadelphia, and communicated to the Society by that eminent Botanist. The extraordinary benefits already derived from this remedy in the Midland Counties, and in almost every case where it has been tried, has induced the Society to adopt this method as the best means of immediate and general publicity; and they wish it to be frankly and distinctly understood, that they will not, in any case, or under any circumstances whatever, accept any contribution, fee, or gratuity, for this Recipe, the object of the Society being to demonstrate the superiority of the Botanic over every other Practice of Medicine, and in return only desire that those who may be signally benefited by it, will afterwards send to the Society a statement of the case, and thus aid with facts in accelerating the present movement in favour of Medical Reform.—Direct thus: The Secretary of the Botanic Institute, Hounds Gate, Nottingham—enclosing an envelope addressed to yourself.

THE Jurors of the Rewards of the Paris Exhibition have awarded the 1st Class Medal to CHAS. HUBERT, 291, Regent-street, London, for the superiority of his Ladies and Gentlemen's Boots and Shoes.

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GUNS, RIFLES, REVOLVERS, AIR CANES, &c., with all the latest improvements. Superior Double Guns, in cases complete, 16 to 25 guineas. Double Guns, in pairs, 30, 40, and 50 guineas, per double case. First-rate Double Rifles, 15 to 30 guineas. Ditto, with extra barrel fitting same stock in cases, 20 to 50 guineas. Single Guns and Single Barrel Rifles, on the Mule and other systems of solid and hollow cones, long ranges, 25 to 15 guineas. Adams's, Colt's, and all the highly approved Revolving Pistols and Rifles in endless variety. Saloon Pistols and Rifles. Improved Air Canes, &c. REILLY, Gun-maker, New Oxford-street.

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PATENT INJECTING INSTRUMENTS, for Cattle, &c. Improved HOLLOW PROBANGE, for relieving hoven or choked Bulls, Calves, Sheep, &c. &c. New patent Garden Watering Engines. Machines and Syringes of every description, upon the most improved principle. Manufactured only by R. READ, 33, Regent-circus, Piccadilly, London. Descriptions sent post-free.

THE COMFORT of a FIXED WATER-CLOSET for 12-Places in gardens converted into comfortable water-closets by the PATENT HERMETICALLY-SEALED PAN, with self-acting valve, entirely preventing the return of cold air or effluvia. Any carpenter can fix it in two hours. Price 18s. Also Hermetically-sealed Incubators, Chamber Commodes, 12s. 6d. and 2s. 6d., and Improved Portable Water-closets, with pump-cistern, and self-acting valve. A prospectus, with engravings, forwarded by enclosing two post stamps. AT-FYFE and Co.'s Sanitorium, 64, Leicester-square.

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Enlargement of premises.—Increase of Stock.—Are you about to furnish? If so, inspect this enormous stock, consisting of the most richly-riche manufactures of Gillows and Dowling, as well as plain substantial cottage furniture. Buying for cash you will save 20 per cent. 100 sets of dining-room furniture, of superior style and workmanship; telescopic dining-tables, from three guineas to thirty; chairs in morocco, hair cloth, and roan, from 12s. 6d. to 2 guineas. An immense stock of bedding, blankets, sheeting, counterpanes, carpets, and family drapery, just received from the manufacturers. Mark the Address—Corner of the New-road, and Tottenham-court-road.

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BURGULARS DEFEATED. CHUBB'S GUNPOWDER-PROOF SAFES. 9, Cousin-lane, Upper Thames-street, London, July 6, 1855. Gentlemen.—The safe you fixed here some years ago has indeed proved a good one, and done good service. Last week some thieves broke into our office, and tried their hands upon it. First they seem to have used their crowbars, and then gunpowder, but both proved vain; for money, bills, and deeds were all safe enough in your "Safe," and under your lock and key. We have great pleasure in informing you of this, of which you can make any use you please. We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants, JAS. NICHOLSON and Co. Messrs. Chubb and Son, 57, St. Paul's Churchyard, London, 18, Lord-street, Liverpool; 16, Market-street, Manchester; and Horsley-field, Wolverhampton.

ADNAM'S Improved Patent Groats and Barley. THE ONLY EXISTING PATENT.

And Strongly Recommended by the Medical Profession. **TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, and FAMILIES.**—The important object, so desirable to be obtained, has at length been secured to the Public by J. and J. C. ADNAM, Patentees, who, after much time and attention, have succeeded by their Improved Process in producing preparations of the purest and finest quality ever manufactured from the Oat and Barley.

To enumerate the many advantages derived by the Public from the use of the Improved Patent Groats is not the intention of the Patentees; suffice it to say that, by the process of manufacture, the acidity and unpleasant flavour so generally complained of in other preparations is totally obliterated, and very superior Gruel speedily made therefrom. It is particularly recommended to those of consumptive constitution, Ladies, and Children; and the healthy and strong will find it an excellent Luncheon or Supper. The Barley, being prepared by a similar process, is as pure as can be manufactured, and will be found to produce a light and nourishing Food for Infants and the Aged; and to contain all the necessary properties for making a delicious soup. It has also the distinguishing character for making very superior Barley Water, and will be found a most excellent ingredient for thickening Soup, &c.

A report having been circulated that preparations of so white a character could not be produced from Groats and Barley alone, the Patentees have had recourse to the highest authority, viz. A. S. TAYLOR, M.D., F.R.S., &c., &c., for an analysis to establish the fact, a copy of which is subjoined:—

"I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical examination the samples of Barley-meal and Groats which you have forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only those principles which are found in good Barley; there is no mineral or other impurity present, and from the result of my investigation, I believe them to be genuine, and to possess those nutritive properties assigned by late Dr. Pereira to this description of food. (Signed) A. S. TAYLOR. Messrs. ADNAM and Co."

CAUTION.—To prevent error, the Public are requested to observe that each Package bears the Signature of the PATENTERS, J. and J. C. ADNAM.

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SISAL CIGARS! SISAL CIGARS!! at a GOODRICH'S CIGAR, TOBACCO, and SNUFF STORES (established 1780), 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square. Box, containing 14 fine Sisal Cigars, for 1s. 9d.; post-free, 27 stamps. None are genuine unless signed "H. N. GOODRICH."

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Best Congou Tea... 4 d. Best Young Hyson Tea... 4 d. Best Souchong Tea... 4 d. Best Gunpowder Tea... 4 d. Best Assam Souchong Tea... 4 d. Best Plantation Coffee... 1 s. Best Assam Pekoe Tea... 4 d. Best Mocha Coffee... 1 s. Lower Prices kept. Price Lists on application. Two pounds' worth of Tea or Coffee forwarded free by all parts of England.

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HOW to TEST a MERSCHAUM PIPE.—Draw a silver coin across it; if pure, there will be no line; if spurious, the geyser necessarily will take a mark from the silver like a pencil on paper. Imitation pipes are imported and sold as new Merschaum, &c. The only reliable pipes are the Pure Vienna Merschaums, which are cut from solid blocks of Merschaum and prepared by an improved method, which entirely prevents the unpleasant flavour which is given to new pipes, and ensures a brilliant colour. The prices are greatly reduced, viz. cases complete, 3s. 10d., 5s., 6s., up to 10 guineas. Imported by J. F. VARLEY and Co., 364, Oxford-street, exactly opposite the Princess's Theatre, Cigar Merchants and Manufacturers of the celebrated Virginia Shag, 5s. per lb., and Havannah Bird's Eye, &c. respectively, full, rich and mild delicate flavour—the finest Tobacco ever cut. THE HAVANNAH STORES.

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Prepared only by the Patentees, ROBINSON, BELLVILLE, and Co., Purveyors to the Queen, 64, Red Lion-street, Holborn, London. The proprietors of Robinson's Patent Barley and Patent Groats, desirous that the public shall at all times purchase these preparations in a perfectly sweet and fresh condition, respectfully inform the public that every packet is now completely enveloped in the patent Tin Foil, over which is the usual and well-known paper wrapper. Sold by all respectable Grocers, Druggists, and others in Town and Country, in Packets of 6d. and 1s.; and Family Canisters, at 2s., 5s., and 10s. each.

OYSTERS.—BURNHAM RIVER NATIVES
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TO NERVOUS SUFFERERS.—A retired
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Prescribed with complete confidence by the faculty for its purity, efficacy, and marked superiority over all other kinds.

It is entirely free from nauseous flavour, and being invariably and carefully submitted to chemical analysis—and only supplied in sealed bottles to preclude subsequent admixture or adulteration—this Oil possesses a guarantee of genuineness and purity offered by no other Cod Liver Oil.

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This celebrated Bacon, smoke-dried, is sold by the side, half-side, and separate pieces.

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All articles are securely packed for travelling.
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